

SECOND REGULAR SESSION

[PERFECTED]

HOUSE BILL NO. 1358

93RD GENERAL ASSEMBLY

INTRODUCED BY REPRESENTATIVES PORTWOOD (Sponsor), LEMBKE, YAEGER, ROORDA, AVERY, MAY, BEAN, MUSCHANY, WRIGHT (137), SATER, WILDBERGER, SCHAAF, WILSON (119), WRIGHT (159) AND CURLS (Co-sponsors).

Read 1st time January 11, 2006 and copies ordered printed.

Read 2nd time January 12, 2006 and referred to the Committee on Health Care Policy February 2, 2006.

Reported from the Committee on Health Care Policy March 2, 2006 with recommendation that the bill Do Pass by Consent. Referred to the Committee on Rules pursuant to Rule 25(26)(f).

Reported from the Committee on Rules March 7, 2006 with recommendation that the bill Do Pass by Consent.

Perfected by Consent March 14, 2006.

STEPHEN S. DAVIS, Chief Clerk

4197L.01P

AN ACT

To amend chapter 9, RSMo, by adding thereto one new section relating to the designation of hepatitis awareness day.

Be it enacted by the General Assembly of the state of Missouri, as follows:

Section A. Chapter 9, RSMo, is amended by adding thereto one new section, to be known as section 9.158, to read as follows:

9.158. 1. The governor shall annually issue a proclamation setting apart the tenth day of May as "Hepatitis C Awareness Day", and recommending to the people of the state that the day be appropriately observed through activities which will increase hepatitis C awareness, education, tolerance, and understanding.

2. Hepatitis C is a liver disease caused by the hepatitis C virus (HCV) and spread by contact with the blood of an infected person. As the third highest reported virus in Missouri, hepatitis C acts as the silent killer of many persons because they are unaware they are infected with HCV, which is asymptomatic until advanced liver damage develops.

EXPLANATION — Matter enclosed in bold-faced brackets [thus] in the above bill is not enacted and is intended to be omitted from the law. Matter in **bold-face** type in the above bill is proposed language.

9 Since no vaccine for hepatitis C currently exists, the only way to prevent the disease is to
10 reduce the risk of exposure to the virus through information and education.

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