

HB 1353 -- LUPUS AWARENESS MONTH AND DAY

SPONSOR: Allred

COMMITTEE ACTION: Voted "Do Pass" by the Special Committee on Tourism by a vote of 9 to 0.

This bill designates May as "Lupus Awareness Month" and May 10th of each year as "Lupus Awareness Day" and encourages citizens to wear purple and raise awareness about Lupus.

PROPOSERS: Supporters say that lupus is often a debilitating but invisible illness. Because people are unable to see the pain and other problems, they tend to dismiss the sufferers as hypochondriacs, or worse, so the stigma is sometimes worse than the condition. This designation would help educate others and hopefully start to remove the stigma.

Testifying for the bill were Representative Allred and Lakeisha Veal.

OPPOSERS: There was no opposition voiced to the committee.