

ASSEMBLY JOINT RESOLUTION NO. 14—COMMITTEE ON
HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES

MARCH 8, 1999

Referred to Committee on Health and Human Services

SUMMARY—Commends Dr. Daniel L. Peterson for his work on behalf of persons with chronic fatigue syndrome and urges Congress to provide financial support for additional scientific research to combat this disease. (BDR R-1636)

FISCAL NOTE: Effect on Local Government: No.
Effect on the State or on Industrial Insurance: No.

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EXPLANATION – Matter in ***bolded italics*** is new; matter between brackets ~~for omitted material~~ is material to be omitted.

ASSEMBLY JOINT RESOLUTION—Commending Dr. Daniel L. Peterson for his work on behalf of persons with chronic fatigue syndrome and urging the Congress of the United States to provide financial support for additional scientific research to combat this disease.

- 1 WHEREAS, Chronic fatigue syndrome is an illness characterized by
- 2 prolonged, debilitating fatigue and multiple nonspecific symptoms such as
- 3 headaches, muscle and joint pains, sleep disturbances, recurrent sore
- 4 throats and cognitive impairment; and
- 5 WHEREAS, This illness is often misdiagnosed and its cause erroneously
- 6 attributed to conditions irrelevant to the disorder; and
- 7 WHEREAS, Because the cause of this disorder is unknown and there are
- 8 no diagnostic tests, this disorder is diagnosed when the symptoms persist
- 9 for more than 6 months and cannot be attributed to any other medical
- 10 condition; and
- 11 WHEREAS, Recent studies have indicated that chronic fatigue syndrome
- 12 is a far greater public health problem than previously known, affecting
- 13 men and women of all racial and ethnic groups, as well as adolescents,
- 14 with the highest prevalence occurring among Caucasian women; and
- 15 WHEREAS, Many patients with chronic fatigue syndrome are unable to
- 16 continue holding jobs, attending school or caring for family members; and
- 17 WHEREAS, Treatment of chronic fatigue syndrome is currently focused
- 18 on symptomatic relief since there is no single drug or group of drugs
- 19 specific to this disease; and

1 WHEREAS, Extensive scientific research is needed to determine the
2 cause and cure for chronic fatigue syndrome, such as the recent
3 double-blind, placebo-controlled, crossover pilot study conducted at
4 Georgetown University Medical Center resulting in the discovery that a
5 naturally occurring coenzyme, commercially available as ENADA®, can
6 alleviate symptoms of this debilitating disorder; and

7 WHEREAS, Nevada's own Dr. Daniel L. Peterson, who is a member of
8 the Sierra Internal Medicine Associates in Incline Village, Nevada, is well
9 known for his role in the fight against chronic fatigue syndrome; and

10 WHEREAS, Since 1984, Dr. Peterson has treated more than 2,000
11 patients with chronic fatigue syndrome; and

12 WHEREAS, Dr. Peterson's dedication to this cause is evidenced by his
13 tenure as Medical Director of the Fatigue Clinic for the diagnosis of
14 fatigue and the treatment of chronic fatigue and immune dysfunction
15 syndrome at the Neurology Clinic of the University of California, San
16 Francisco; and

17 WHEREAS, Dr. Peterson is a member of the International Chronic
18 Fatigue Syndrome Study Group, and has earned nationwide recognition as
19 co-author of many articles relating to chronic fatigue syndrome which have
20 appeared in medical journals and publications throughout the country; and

21 WHEREAS, In treating patients with chronic fatigue syndrome, Dr.
22 Peterson has drawn on practices that have made medicine a valued art by
23 excluding alternative problems, ameliorating symptoms and offering
24 guidance with compassion; now, therefore, be it

25 RESOLVED BY THE ASSEMBLY AND SENATE OF THE STATE OF NEVADA,
26 JOINTLY, That the members of the 70th session of the Nevada Legislature
27 do hereby commend Dr. Peterson for his outstanding work and selfless
28 dedication on behalf of persons with chronic fatigue syndrome; and be it
29 further

30 RESOLVED, That the Nevada Legislature hereby urges Congress to
31 provide financial support and ensure that federal health agencies allocate
32 increasing resources for additional scientific research to combat chronic
33 fatigue syndrome; and be it further

34 RESOLVED, That the Chief Clerk of the Assembly prepare and transmit
35 a copy of this resolution to Dr. Daniel L. Peterson and to the Vice
36 President of the United States as the presiding officer of the Senate, the
37 Speaker of the House of Representatives and each member of the Nevada
38 Congressional Delegation; and be it further

39 RESOLVED, That this resolution becomes effective upon passage and
40 approval.