

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 symptoms such as headaches,
- 3 muscle and joint pains, sleep disturbances, recurrent sore throats and
- 4 cognitive impairment; and
- 5 WHEREAS, This illness is often misdiagnosed and its cause erroneously
- 6 attributed to irrelevant conditions; and
- 7 WHEREAS, Because the cause of this illness is unknown and there are no
- 8 diagnostic tests, this illness is diagnosed when the symptoms persist for
- 9 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 men
- 13 and women of all racial and ethnic groups, as well as adolescents, with the
- 14 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 illness; 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 fatigue
14 and the treatment of chronic fatigue and immune dysfunction syndrome at
15 the Neurology Clinic of the University of California, San Francisco; and

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

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

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

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

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

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