Designating January 26, 2011, as 'National Kawasaki Disease Awareness Day'.

IN THE SENATE OF THE UNITED STATES

January 26, 2011

Mr. WEBB submitted the following resolution; which was referred to the Committee on the Judiciary

RESOLUTION

Designating January 26, 2011, as 'National Kawasaki Disease Awareness Day'.

Whereas Kawasaki disease is a serious illness characterized by the inflammation of blood vessels throughout the body;

Whereas symptoms of Kawasaki disease include fever, rash, swelling, irritation, redness of the whites of the eyes, and inflammation of the mouth, lips, and throat;

Whereas Kawasaki disease primarily affects young children and is a leading cause of acquired heart disease in the United States;

Whereas the Centers for Disease Control estimates that in 2006 approximately 5,500 individuals with Kawasaki disease were hospitalized in the United States;

Whereas Kawasaki disease affects children of all races, but occurs most often in children of Asian and Pacific Island descent;

Whereas the cause of Kawasaki disease is unknown;

Whereas Kawasaki disease can usually be treated if diagnosed promptly, but can cause major health problems or even death if left untreated;

Whereas there is no test to definitively diagnose cases of Kawasaki disease;

Whereas a lack of awareness among health professionals and the public may contribute to the underdiagnosis of Kawasaki disease; and

Whereas, on January 26, 1961, Dr. Tomisaku Kawasaki saw his first patient who suffered from what would later be termed Kawasaki disease: Now, therefore, be it

Resolved, That the Senate--

(1) designates January 26, 2011, as 'National Kawasaki Disease Awareness Day';
(2) recognizes the importance of awareness in diagnosing and properly treating cases of Kawasaki disease;
(3) urges all people of the United States to educate themselves about Kawasaki disease and the signs and symptoms of Kawasaki disease; and
(4) encourages the people of the United States to observe the day with appropriate ceremonies and activities.

END