

## 2026 SESSION

INTRODUCED

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### HOUSE JOINT RESOLUTION NO. 33

Offered January 14, 2026

Prefiled January 13, 2026

*Designating April, in 2026 and in each succeeding year, as Myocarditis Awareness Month in Virginia.*

Patron—Hayes

Committee Referral Pending

WHEREAS, myocarditis is a rare infectious disease that causes inflammation of the cardiac muscle and may result in severe cardiovascular symptoms or even heart failure; and

WHEREAS, myocarditis causes shortness of breath, fatigue, heart palpitations, chest pain or pressure, lightheadedness, swelling, or a sudden loss of consciousness; there is no cure for myocarditis, and although early treatment may be effective, the disease is often left undiagnosed or misdiagnosed; and

WHEREAS, myocarditis affects thousands of Americans each year, and estimates for annual cases around the world have ranged between one and three million in the past decade; and

WHEREAS, while certain age groups are considered higher risk for the disease, myocarditis can affect people of all ages, and it is a leading cause of sudden death in young adults; and

WHEREAS, the Myocarditis Foundation was established in 2005 to raise awareness of the disease, serve as a resource for up-to-date information, facilitate scientific research and advancements in treatment, and advocate for myocarditis patients throughout the United States; and

WHEREAS, Myocarditis Awareness Month provides an opportunity for all Virginians to learn more about the disease and efforts to develop a cure, as well as offer compassionate support for individuals with myocarditis and their families; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED by the House of Delegates, the Senate concurring, That the General Assembly designate April, in 2026 and in each succeeding year, as Myocarditis Awareness Month in Virginia; and, be it

RESOLVED FURTHER, That the Clerk of the House of Delegates transmit a copy of this resolution to the Myocarditis Foundation so that members of the organization may be apprised of the sense of the General Assembly of Virginia in this matter; and, be it

RESOLVED FINALLY, That the Clerk of the House of Delegates post the designation of this month on the General Assembly's website.

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