

RESOLUTION (Number to be assigned by RI)

To request the RI Board to encourage research, education and funding on Myalgic Encephalomyelitis/Chronic Fatigue Syndrome (ME/CFS), a form of non-paralytic polio.

Proposer: District 5440 – Wyoming and parts of Colorado, Nebraska, Idaho USA

WHEREAS, the virus that most often triggers ME/CFS is closely related to the one that causes polio, and

WHEREAS, an estimated 15-30 million people worldwide, predominantly women, have ME/CFS,

WHEREAS, seventy-five percent of those suffering from this devastating neurological condition cannot work or attend school; thirty-five percent are bedridden, and

WHEREAS, government and organization funding for research and education to recognize and treat ME/CFS is woefully inadequate.

IT IS RESOLVED that Rotary International use its vast knowledge and resources already developed and implemented to eradicate polio for the support, encouragement and participation with those working to fund ME/CFS research and education.

PURPOSE AND EFFECT

This resolution would leverage Rotary's worldwide reputation and expertise on polio eradication to raise awareness on the need to educate the public and medical practitioners on the importance of treating and ultimately finding a cure for those suffering from ME/CFS.

FINANCIAL IMPACT

If implemented, this resolution could have a financial impact on RI. Costs would be dependent on the scope and extent of support provided by Rotary International to accomplish this goal.

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