

September 25th, 2017


Good afternoon Chairman Burke, Vice Chair Beagle, Ranking Member Tavares, and colleagues of the Ohio Senate Health, Human Services and Medicaid Committee. My name is Susan Kresnye and I thank you for the opportunity to provide testimony on Senate Bill 143, which will designate September 25th as International Ataxia Awareness Day in Ohio.

Although many are not aware of ataxia, it is estimated that 150,000 people in the United States are affected by this condition. The afflicted include persons of all ages including children and young adults. Ataxia is a group of often fatal rare degenerative neurological disorders. Some symptoms include impairment of coordination, hearing, vision and speech. Unfortunately at this time, there is no effective treatment of cure for ataxia.

The reason I come before you today is to have legislation passed on behalf of the thousands of individuals afflicted by hereditary and sporadic ataxia in the United States and increase public awareness, research, prevention and support for those who suffer from ataxia and their families, friends and caregivers.

Thank you again for allowing my voice to be heard and I welcome any questions at this time.

Thank you,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Susan K. Kresnye". The signature is written in black ink and is positioned above the printed name.

Susan K. Kresnye