

1                   **CONCURRENT RESOLUTION RECOGNIZING HEPATITIS**  
2                   **AWARENESS MONTH AND NATIONAL HEPATITIS DAY**

3                                   2023 GENERAL SESSION

4                                   STATE OF UTAH

5                           **Chief Sponsor: Jennifer Dailey-Provost**

6                           Senate Sponsor: \_\_\_\_\_

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8                   **LONG TITLE**

9                   **General Description:**

10                   This resolution recognizes July 28, 2023, as National Hepatitis Day, and May 2023 as  
11                   Hepatitis Awareness Month.

12                   **Highlighted Provisions:**

13                   This resolution:

- 14                   ▶ recognizes the impact of the hepatitis A, B, and C virus on the people of Utah;
- 15                   ▶ highlights the impact of screening, education, and treatment on reducing the effects  
16                   of hepatitis; and
- 17                   ▶ joins the nationwide movement to raise awareness of hepatitis by recognizing in the  
18                   state of Utah:
  - 19                   • July 28, 2023, as National Hepatitis Day; and
  - 20                   • the month of May as Hepatitis Awareness Month.

21                   **Special Clauses:**

22                   None

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24                   *Be it resolved by the Legislature of the state of Utah, the Governor concurring therein:*

25                   WHEREAS, millions of Americans are impacted by the hepatitis A virus (HAV),  
26                   hepatitis B virus (HBV), and hepatitis C virus (HCV), which cause infection to the liver,  
27                   including an estimated 29,000 people in Utah living with HCV and an average of 272 HBV



28 cases reported to the state every year;

29 WHEREAS, greater than half of people living with viral hepatitis are unaware they are  
30 infected, thereby increasing their risk for severe health problems such as cirrhosis, liver cancer,  
31 liver transplant, and death;

32 WHEREAS, with immunizations, access to unused syringes and harm reduction  
33 supplies, and early detection, hepatitis A, B, and C can be prevented, hepatitis B can be treated,  
34 and hepatitis C can be cured, saving lives;

35 WHEREAS, the current epidemic of opioid, methamphetamine, and other substance  
36 use in the state is increasing transmission of these viruses that are spread through blood and  
37 bodily fluids primarily through injection, inclusive of intranasal, drug use;

38 WHEREAS, the CDC recommends all individuals over 18 years old and pregnant  
39 individuals be screened for hepatitis C virus, at-risk populations and all people born in regions  
40 of the world where HBV is common be screened for hepatitis B virus and receive routine  
41 vaccination against hepatitis A and B; and

42 WHEREAS, the CDC recommends education of the public and professionals on  
43 hepatitis prevention, testing, and treatment, treatment of all persons living with chronic  
44 hepatitis, and the development of systems to conduct viral hepatitis surveillance:

45 NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Legislature of the state of Utah, the  
46 Governor concurring therein, proclaim July 28, 2023, as Hepatitis Awareness Day in Utah and  
47 the month of May 2023 as Hepatitis Awareness Month in the state of Utah and urges all  
48 citizens to join in this special observance.