

SENATE, No. 1179

STATE OF NEW JERSEY
219th LEGISLATURE

INTRODUCED FEBRUARY 3, 2020

Sponsored by:

Senator NILSA CRUZ-PEREZ

District 5 (Camden and Gloucester)

SYNOPSIS

Designates month of November as "Reflex Sympathetic Dystrophy Syndrome Awareness Month" in NJ.

CURRENT VERSION OF TEXT

As introduced.



1 AN ACT designating the month of November as “Reflex
2 Sympathetic Dystrophy Syndrome Awareness Month” in New
3 Jersey and amending P.L.2007, c.255.

4
5 **BE IT ENACTED** *by the Senate and General Assembly of the State*
6 *of New Jersey:*

7
8 1. Section 2 of P.L.2007, c.255 (C.26:2AA-2) is amended to
9 read as follows:

10 2. The Legislature finds and declares that:

11 a. Reflex sympathetic dystrophy syndrome (RSDS), also
12 known as complex regional pain syndrome, is a debilitating and
13 progressively chronic condition characterized by severe burning
14 pain, pathological changes in bone and skin, excessive sweating,
15 tissue swelling and extreme sensitivity to touch**【;】**.

16 b. More specifically, RSDS is thought to be a nerve disorder
17 that generally occurs at the site of a minor or major trauma injury,
18 but may also occur without an apparent injury to the afflicted
19 person **【;】**.

20 c. While the causes of RSDS are unknown, the syndrome is
21 thought to be the result of damaged nerves of the sympathetic
22 nervous system **【;】**.

23 d. The disorder is unique in that it simultaneously affects the
24 nerves, skin, muscles, blood vessels and bones, and if untreated, can
25 result in permanent deformity and chronic pain **【;】**.

26 e. RSDS is often misdiagnosed because this condition is either
27 unknown or is poorly understood; the prognosis for patients
28 suffering from RSDS is generally much better when the condition is
29 identified and treated as early as possible, ideally within three
30 months of identifying the first symptoms **【;】**. Treatments aimed at
31 relieving pain include, but are not limited to: physical therapy,
32 medications, nerve blocks, surgical sympathectomy, spinal cord
33 stimulation, and transcutaneous electrical nerve stimulation.

34 f. If treatment is delayed, the disorder can quickly spread to
35 the entire limb, and changes in bone and muscle may become
36 irreversible, resulting in limited mobility, atrophy of the muscles
37 and eventual permanent disability of patients **【; and】**.

38 g. Since a delay in diagnosis or treatment for this syndrome can
39 result in severe physical and physiological problems, and early
40 recognition and prompt treatment of RSDS provides the greatest
41 opportunity for recovery, it is in the best interest of the public to
42 establish a program to educate both individuals and medical
43 professionals regarding this debilitating condition and to promote
44 research to accurately identify, diagnose and treat RSDS.

EXPLANATION – Matter enclosed in bold-faced brackets **【thus】** in the above bill is
not enacted and is intended to be omitted in the law.

Matter underlined thus is new matter.

