

AMERICAN ASSOCIATION OF
NEUROLOGICAL SURGEONS

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American
Association of
Neurological
Surgeons



Congress of
Neurological
Surgeons

CONGRESS OF
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June 19, 2019

The Honorable Lindsey Graham
United States Senate
290 Russell Senate Office Building
Washington, D.C. 20510

SUBJECT: S. Res. 245, Designating July 17, 2019, as “Glioblastoma Awareness Day”

Dear Senator Graham,

On behalf of the American Association of Neurological Surgeons (AANS) and the Congress of Neurological Surgeons (CNS), we would like to express our sincere appreciation and gratitude for introducing S. Res. 245, designating July 17, 2019, as “Glioblastoma Awareness Day.” There is a great need to increase public awareness and research investments to improve outcomes for individuals battling this form of brain cancer. Hopefully, your resolution will focus more attention and accelerate progress towards new treatments and identify possibilities regarding screening and early detection methods.

As you are aware, more than 15,000 people succumb to glioblastoma every year, and more than 13,000 new cases will be diagnosed in the United States in 2019 alone. According to the National Cancer Institute, this most aggressive, complex, difficult to treat and deadliest brain tumor accounts for 52 percent of all primary brain tumors.

Your resolution will also honor and express support for individuals — such as Senators John McCain and Ted Kennedy — and their families who have lost their lives to, or are currently living with, this devastating disease. We appreciate that you recognize that a collaborative approach to brain tumor research will ultimately provide the pathway to new treatment options for glioblastoma.

Again, thank you for your leadership on this issue. We look forward to working with you on this and other important health policy issues.

Sincerely,

Christopher I. Shaffrey, President
American Association of Neurological Surgeons

Ganesh Rao, MD, President
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