

## 2001 ASSEMBLY RESOLUTION 35

October 8, 2001 – Introduced by Representative GARD. Referred to Committee on Public Health.

1     **Relating to:** urging increased awareness of Adhesion Related Disorder.

2             Whereas, efforts to increase awareness regarding health issues that affect  
3 residents of the state of Wisconsin merit the support of the Wisconsin state assembly;  
4 and

5             Whereas, it is important to call attention to the serious medical condition of  
6 adhesion related disorder (ARD), which afflicts many residents of this great state;  
7 and

8             Whereas, adhesions are internal scars that frequently occur after surgery and  
9 can grow to connect internal organs not normally connected leading to chronic pain,  
10 recurrent bowel obstruction, and infertility; and

11            Whereas, in extreme cases, some patients have had to endure over 20  
12 operations to remove adhesions because of the propensity for regrowth of scar tissue;  
13 and

14            Whereas, ARD may become so severe that patients are unable to work; health  
15 care or disability insurance is difficult to obtain; family life is devastated; and the

1 emotional health of ARD sufferers is severely affected, leading to life-threatening  
2 depression and isolation; and

3 Whereas, hospital admissions for ARD number over 300,000 per year, rivaling  
4 those for heart bypass, appendectomy, and other common operations, yet the  
5 awareness of this serious condition is relatively low; and

6 Whereas, the lack of awareness about adhesions and ARD means that many  
7 doctors do not understand the condition and are unable to treat adhesions, insurance  
8 companies are unwilling to pay for treatment, and patients' efforts to get well are  
9 continually frustrated; and

10 Whereas, the International Adhesion Society was formed in 1996 to promote  
11 awareness about adhesions, to provide support to patients and information to  
12 medical professionals, and to encourage research into adhesions and their  
13 prevention; and

14 Whereas, in recognition of the debilitating effects ARD has had on those  
15 afflicted, it is incumbent upon the residents of this state to support the courageous  
16 individuals living and coping with this painful condition; now, therefore, be it

17 ***Resolved by the assembly, That*** the members of the Wisconsin assembly  
18 hereby recognize ARD, promote awareness of this debilitating condition, and  
19 support further research leading to advancements in the treatment of this disorder;  
20 and, be it further

21 ***Resolved, That*** the assembly chief clerk shall transmit copies of this  
22 resolution to Beverly Doucette, the International Adhesion Society, and the  
23 Wisconsin Medical Society.

24

(END)