

ONE HUNDRED EIGHTH LEGISLATURE

SECOND SESSION

**LEGISLATIVE RESOLUTION 471**

Introduced by Slama, 1.

WHEREAS, Spina Bifida is the most common permanently disabling birth defect, occurring when the spine and spinal cord do not form properly within the first thirty days of pregnancy and impacting approximately one thousand five hundred births each year in the United States; and

WHEREAS, individuals living with Spina Bifida may have multiple medical conditions including: walking and mobility issues from paralysis, bowel and bladder problems, hydrocephalus, latex allergies, pressure sores, and Arnold Chiari malformation type II; and

WHEREAS, there is no cure for Spina Bifida and what causes it to form is unknown; and

WHEREAS, the medical community recommends that women who could become pregnant take four hundred micrograms of folic acid daily to help prevent neural tube defects such as Spina Bifida; and

WHEREAS, through years of research and with the information discovered, people with Spina Bifida tend to live normal and independent lives; and

WHEREAS, individuals living with Spina Bifida and their families deserve support from the State of Nebraska through public awareness.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE MEMBERS OF THE ONE HUNDRED EIGHTH LEGISLATURE OF NEBRASKA, SECOND SESSION:

1. That the Legislature recognizes October 2024 as Spina Bifida Awareness Month.