

Contacting Congress

You will need to look up your Congressman/Congresswoman by going to <http://www.house.gov> and entering your zip code. This site will list all of your representative's local and Washington, D.C. offices. You want to call the Washington, D.C. office.

When you call your representative please identify yourself as a constituent and ask to speak with the legislative assistant who is over health policy issues. Normally, they will ask if you are with an organization and what this is in reference to. Again, state you are a constituent and state you would like for your member to co-sponsor non-binding House Congressional Resolution 163 on Dandy-Walker Syndrome. At least 100 cosponsors are needed.

You may find that the legislative assistant is unavailable and be transferred to their voicemail. Whether you are transferred to the legislative assistant or to their voicemail, you will once again want to identify yourself as a constituent and ask them to review House Congressional Resolution 163 and sign on as a co-sponsor.

It's always good to add a personal statement too like, "I have a daughter, son, grandson, nephew, cousin, friend, etc. who is affected by Dandy-Walker Syndrome." Before you hang up be sure to ask the person you speak with or leave a message for to call you back to let you know whether or not they will be signing on as a co-sponsor.

If you are told that your member's office will support the resolution they may sign up as a cosponsor by contacting Joe Moser at extension 5-6316 in Congresswoman Heather Wilson's (R-NM) office or Ray Thorn at extension 5-5341 in Congressman Chris Van Hollen's (D-MD) office.

However, if you are told that your member's office will support the resolution when it comes to the House Floor for a vote you should respond that what you need is for them to show their support now by signing on as cosponsors so that it can get it to the House Floor for them to support. Remember, 100 cosponsors are needed.

If you are given an e-mail address it is also sometimes helpful to follow up your voicemail with an e-mail. If you choose to go this route, please attach a copy of the Resolution and Dear Colleague Letter and be sure to ask they get back to you on whether or not they intend to sign on as a cosponsor

We appreciate your help in raising support for House Congressional Resolution 163. Please feel free to contact us for more tips on calling Congress.

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