DRAFT

**116TH CONGRESS**

**H. RES. X**

*Recognizing the 100th anniversary of Easterseals, a leading advocate and service provider for children and adults with disabilities, veterans, older adults, caregivers, and their families.*

Whereas, on April 22, 1919, an organization now known as Easterseals was formed to highlight and address the health care and service needs of children with disabilities;

Whereas, in 1945, Easterseals expanded its children’s-focused mission by opening its programs and services to include adults to meet the emerging and increasing needs of returning World War II veterans and other adults with disabilities;

Whereas, since its inception, Easterseals has strongly advocated for essential services and supports for individuals with disabilities and diverse needs, including by authoring a 1931 “Bill of Rights” for children with disabilities that led to government-funded disability services and by increasing public awareness and support through its successful “seals” and other national campaigns;

Whereas, Easterseals has grown from its humble Elyria, Ohio beginnings to become a network of leading nonprofit organizations in states across the country who deliver high-quality, local services and supports to help children and adults with disabilities, veterans, older adults, caregivers, and their families achieve milestones, live independently, and fully participate in their communities;

Whereas, Easterseals is a strong partner with local, state, and federal government, corporations, foundations, and other sectors to provide or connect individuals and families to early childhood education and intervention services, employment assistance and placement, transportation solutions, mental health services, respite, camping and recreation, and caregiving and aging supports; and

Whereas, Easterseals continues the mission and commitment to service envisioned by its founder, Edgar Allen, a parent, businessman, and Rotarian who concluded that “Your life and mine shall be valued not by what we take, but by what we give”: Now, therefore, be it

Resolved, that the U.S. House of Representatives

1. Commemorates April 22, 2019, as the 100th anniversary of Easterseals; and
2. Recognizes Easterseals for its impact over the past 100 years in the lives of millions of Americans and for its commitment to expanding possibilities for children and adults with disabilities, veterans, seniors, and others to ensure that everyone of us can live, learn, work, and play in our communities.