

**Resolution recognizing May as Hyperemesis Gravidarum Awareness Month
and May 15th as Hyperemesis Gravidarum Awareness Day**

- WHEREAS:*** Hyperemesis Gravidarum (HG) is a potentially life-threatening pregnancy complication characterized by severe nausea, vomiting, weight loss, and dehydration; and
- WHEREAS:*** HG affects approximately 1 to 3% of pregnancies and can result in serious health complications for both the birthing parent and the fetus if left untreated; and
- WHEREAS:*** Hyperemesis Gravidarum is often misunderstood and misdiagnosed as typical morning sickness, leaving those who suffer from it to endure significant physical, emotional, and financial stress—frequently without adequate support from medical and social systems; and
- WHEREAS:*** Recent studies have shown an average annual increase of 6.8% in HG prevalence, with emergency department visits rising by 28% from 2006 to 2014, and associated healthcare costs increasing by 110% during the same period; and
- WHEREAS:*** The psychological impact of HG can be profound, often leading to depression, anxiety, and, in severe cases, consideration of pregnancy termination due to the debilitating nature of the condition; and
- WHEREAS:*** Increased public awareness and research funding are critical to improving the diagnosis, treatment, and outcomes for those affected by Hyperemesis Gravidarum; and
- WHEREAS:*** Organizations such as the HER Foundation (Hyperemesis Education & Research) work tirelessly to educate the public, support families, and advocate for individuals impacted by HG; and
- WHEREAS:*** The month of May is recognized as Hyperemesis Gravidarum Awareness Month, with May 15th observed internationally as Hyperemesis Gravidarum Awareness Day—both dedicated to raising awareness, honoring those affected, and promoting better care and understanding of this debilitating condition; **NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT**
- RESOLVED:*** That the Somerville City Council hereby recognizes the month of May as Hyperemesis Gravidarum Awareness Month, and May 15, 2025, as

Hyperemesis Gravidarum Awareness Day in the City of Somerville; **AND BE IT FURTHER**

RESOLVED: That the City Council encourages residents, healthcare professionals, and community leaders to educate themselves about Hyperemesis Gravidarum, support individuals and families experiencing it, and advocate for continued research and compassionate care; **AND BE IT FURTHER**

RESOLVED: That the City Council supports legislative efforts such as Massachusetts House Bill H.2452, An Act improving maternal and child health related to Hyperemesis Gravidarum, which seeks to improve awareness, diagnosis, treatment, and support for those affected by this condition through enhanced research, provider education, and public health initiatives: **AND BE IT FURTHER**

RESOLVED: That a copy of this resolution be transmitted to the HER Foundation and other relevant organizations to affirm the City of Somerville's support for increased awareness, education, and resources for Hyperemesis Gravidarum.