This measure would recognize the month of June 2017 as Alzheimer’s and Brain Awareness Month, would recognize June 21, 2017, as The Longest Day in West Virginia, and would urge all residents to wear purple on this day to help spread global awareness of the Alzheimer’s Association’s vision of imagining a world without Alzheimer’s disease.

WHEREAS, The month of June 2017 has been declared Alzheimer’s and Brain Awareness Month to help spread awareness of this debilitating disease and the need to increase efforts to combat its human and economic costs; and

WHEREAS, The summer solstice, June 21, 2017, has been declared The Longest Day, with teams around the world coming together to honor the strength, passion, and endurance of people facing Alzheimer’s disease with a day of activity and advocacy; and

WHEREAS, Alzheimer’s disease, a progressive neurodegenerative brain disorder, tragically robs individuals of their memories and leads to mental and physical impairments; and

WHEREAS, West Virginia has 37,000 residents living with Alzheimer’s and by 2025 will have a projected 44,000 residents living with the disease; and

WHEREAS, West Virginia Medicaid spent $394 million caring for people with Alzheimer’s; and

WHEREAS, Alzheimer’s disease is always fatal and today it is the sixth leading cause of death; and

WHEREAS, Alzheimer’s disease is a family disease impacting West Virginia spouses, partners, children, siblings, and other relatives who provide unpaid assistance to a loved one; and

WHEREAS, West Virginia caregivers devote 122 million total hours of unpaid care to family members valued at over $1.5 billion in nongovernment financial support; and

WHEREAS, On average, a person with Alzheimer’s disease lives four to eight years after diagnosis, but can live as long as 20 years, depending on other factors; and

WHEREAS, Individuals living with Alzheimer’s disease and their caregivers need acknowledgement, support, and services to meet their needs over the lengthy progression of Alzheimer’s disease and related dementias; now, therefore, be it

Resolved by the Hardy County, WV Commission recognizes the month of June 2017 as Alzheimer’s and Brain Awareness Month, recognizes June 21, 2017 as The Longest Day in Hardy County, WV and urges all residents to wear purple on this day to help spread global awareness of the Alzheimer’s Association’s vision of imagining a world without Alzheimer’s disease; and be it further

Resolved, that the County Commission transmit copies of this resolution to the author for appropriate distribution.