



# CEDRIC HAYDEN STATE REPRESENTATIVE

House District 7

## **WILLIAMS SYNDROME GAINS LEGISLATIVE RECOGNITION**

House Bill 2591, sponsored and carried by State Representative Cedric Hayden was passed unanimously by the Oregon House of Representatives on April 5, 2017.

The bill designated May of each year as Williams Syndrome Awareness Month.

First described by New Zealand cardiologist J.C.P. Williams in 1961, the syndrome is characterized by lifelong medical conditions. Individuals with Williams Syndrome often have striking verbal abilities, highly social personalities, and an affinity for music. They may struggle with abstract reasoning and social interactions. Although few can ever hope to be completely self-sufficient, many adults with Williams syndrome contribute to their communities as volunteers, or even through some types of employment.

Representative Hayden and his wife Julie are the parents of a delightful young daughter with Williams Syndrome.

The bill will next proceed to the Oregon Senate for consideration.