

THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF PENNSYLVANIA

HOUSE RESOLUTION

No. 218 Session of 2023

INTRODUCED BY HOGAN, BULLOCK, BRENNAN, MAJOR, PICKETT, T. DAVIS, KHAN, MADDEN, CAUSER, VENKAT, HILL-EVANS, McNEILL, KAUFFMAN, R. MACKENZIE, MARCELL, HANBIDGE, MENTZER, GAYDOS, GILLEN, HADDOCK, M. JONES, BOROWSKI, HEFFLEY AND WARREN, SEPTEMBER 25, 2023

REFERRED TO COMMITTEE ON HEALTH, SEPTEMBER 25, 2023

A RESOLUTION

1 Recognizing the month of September 2023 as "Ovarian Cancer
2 Awareness Month" in Pennsylvania.

3 WHEREAS, Ovarian cancer, which occurs when abnormal cells in
4 a woman's ovaries, fallopian tubes or the related peritoneum
5 grow out of control and spread, is the fifth leading cause of
6 cancer deaths for women in the United States; and

7 WHEREAS, There are more than 30 types of ovarian cancer, with
8 epithelial ovarian cancers being the most common; and

9 WHEREAS, A woman's risk of developing ovarian cancer during
10 her lifetime is approximately 1 in 78; and

11 WHEREAS, A woman's chance of dying from ovarian cancer is
12 approximately 1 in 108; and

13 WHEREAS, Increased risk factors for developing ovarian cancer
14 include aging, a family history of ovarian, breast or colorectal
15 cancer, hereditary syndromes and obesity; and

16 WHEREAS, About half of all women diagnosed with ovarian

1 cancer are 63 years of age or older; and

2 WHEREAS, In 2023, the American Cancer Society estimates
3 approximately 19,710 women will receive a new diagnosis of
4 ovarian cancer, and approximately 13,270 women will die from
5 ovarian cancer; and

6 WHEREAS, Ovarian cancer mortality has declined more than 3%
7 annually from 2016 to 2020, reflecting both decreased incidence
8 and improved treatment; and

9 WHEREAS, When detected early, 94% of ovarian cancer patients
10 live longer than five years after diagnosis; and

11 WHEREAS, An estimated 20% of ovarian cancers are detected at
12 an early stage; and

13 WHEREAS, Despite years of research, experts have not yet
14 developed a successful ovarian cancer screening test, making the
15 condition difficult to diagnose in early stages; and

16 WHEREAS, Symptoms of ovarian cancer are often vague and
17 include bloating, pelvic or abdominal pain, difficulty eating,
18 urinary symptoms and weight gain; and

19 WHEREAS, The American Cancer Society recommends that women
20 discuss potential ovarian cancer symptoms with their doctors;
21 and

22 WHEREAS, Raising awareness of ovarian cancer is critically
23 important in achieving earlier diagnoses; and

24 WHEREAS, September is the official "Ovarian Cancer Awareness
25 Month," a time to spread awareness about ovarian cancer risk and
26 prevention and to garner support for continued scientific
27 research; therefore be it

28 RESOLVED, That the House of Representatives recognize
29 September 2023 as "Ovarian Cancer Awareness Month" in
30 Pennsylvania.