
THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF PENNSYLVANIA

HOUSE RESOLUTION

No. 484 Session of
2013

INTRODUCED BY DAVIS, BIZZARRO, KIRKLAND, CALTAGIRONE, BOBACK,
READSHAW, DIGIROLAMO, JAMES, V. BROWN, SONNEY, MCNEILL,
BROWNLEE, MILLARD, HENNESSEY, KAVULICH, CLYMER, EVERETT,
ROSS, KOTIK, KINSEY, MURT, MAJOR, GRELL, GINGRICH, FRANKEL,
WATSON, FARRY, MIRABITO, FLECK, GILLEN, KULA, D. COSTA,
YOUNGBLOOD, LUCAS, PARKER, CAUSER, DONATUCCI, GOODMAN AND
KORTZ, OCTOBER 11, 2013

INTRODUCED AS NONCONTROVERSIAL RESOLUTION UNDER RULE 35,
OCTOBER 11, 2013

A RESOLUTION

1 Designating January 15, 2014, as "Krabbe Disease Awareness Day"
2 in Pennsylvania.

3 WHEREAS, Globoid cell leukodystrophy, or Krabbe disease, is
4 caused by the shortage of an enzyme called galactosylceramidase;
5 and

6 WHEREAS, The enzyme shortage impairs the growth and
7 maintenance of myelin resulting in central nervous system
8 disruptions; and

9 WHEREAS, The disease affects muscle tone and movement and may
10 cause vision and hearing loss, among other devastating effects;
11 and

12 WHEREAS, In most cases, Krabbe disease develops in babies
13 before 6 months of age, although it can occur in older children
14 and in adults; and

15 WHEREAS, The symptoms of Krabbe disease include feeding

1 difficulties, unexplained crying, loss of head control, fevers,
2 vomiting, extreme irritability, changes in muscle tone, limb and
3 muscle stiffness, poor coordination of movements, seizures,
4 progressive loss of hearing and sight, spasticity and loss of
5 developmental milestones; and

6 WHEREAS, Most children who develop Krabbe disease in infancy
7 die before the age of 2 years old, most often from respiratory
8 failure or complications of immobility and markedly decreased
9 muscle tone; and

10 WHEREAS, There is no cure for Krabbe disease and treatment
11 mainly involves easing symptoms; and

12 WHEREAS, Krabbe disease affects about 1 in every 100,000
13 people in the United States; therefore be it

14 RESOLVED, That the House of Representatives recognize January
15 15, 2014, as "Krabbe Disease Awareness Day" in Pennsylvania.