
THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF PENNSYLVANIA

HOUSE RESOLUTION

No. 660 Session of
2006

INTRODUCED BY E. Z. TAYLOR, PHILLIPS, RUBLEY, FORCIER, ADOLPH, ARGALL, BAKER, BALDWIN, BARRAR, BASTIAN, BEBKO-JONES, BELFANTI, BEYER, BISHOP, BOYD, BUNT, CALTAGIRONE, CAPPELLI, CIVERA, CLYMER, COHEN, CORRIGAN, CRAHALLA, CREIGHTON, CRUZ, DENLINGER, DERMODY, DeWEESE, DiGIROLAMO, DONATUCCI, J. EVANS, FABRIZIO, FAIRCHILD, FICHTER, FLEAGLE, FLICK, GABIG, GEIST, GEORGE, GILLESPIE, GINGRICH, GOOD, GOODMAN, GRUCELA, HARHART, HARPER, HARRIS, HASAY, HENNESSEY, HERSHEY, HESS, HICKERNELL, JAMES, KENNEY, KILLION, KOTIK, LEDERER, LEH, MAITLAND, MAJOR, MANN, MARKOSEK, MARSICO, MCGILL, McILHATTAN, McILHINNEY, MILLARD, R. MILLER, S. MILLER, MUSTIO, MYERS, NAILOR, PALLONE, PARKER, PAYNE, PICKETT, PISTELLA, PYLE, QUIGLEY, RAMALEY, RAPP, READSHAW, REED, REICHLEY, ROBERTS, ROEBUCK, ROHRER, ROSS, SAINATO, SANTONI, SATHER, SAYLOR, SCAVELLO, SCHRODER, SHANER, SIPTROTH, B. SMITH, SOLOBAY, SONNEY, STABACK, STERN, SURRA, TANGRETTI, THOMAS, TIGUE, TRUE, WALKO, WANSACZ, WATSON, WILT, WOJNAROSKI, YOUNGBLOOD AND FREEMAN,
APRIL 3, 2006

INTRODUCED AS NONCONTROVERSIAL RESOLUTION UNDER RULE 35,
APRIL 3, 2006

A RESOLUTION

1 Recognizing the month of May 2006 as "Healthy Babies Month" in
2 Pennsylvania.

3 WHEREAS, The March of Dimes is declaring May 2006 as "Healthy
4 Babies Month" in order to educate men and women of childbearing
5 age about the importance of preconception and prenatal care,
6 nutrition and a healthy lifestyle in order to enhance positive
7 birth outcomes; and

8 WHEREAS, According to the most recently released data of the
9 National Center for Health Statistics, in 2003, 16,770 babies

1 were born prematurely in this Commonwealth, accounting for more
2 than 11% of live births; and

3 WHEREAS, The rate of premature births in this Commonwealth
4 has increased nearly 9% in the last decade, from 10.6% in 1993
5 to 11.6% in 2003; and

6 WHEREAS, In this Commonwealth premature birth with
7 accompanying low birth weight is the second leading cause of
8 infant death (death in the first year of life) and the leading
9 cause of newborn death (death in the first month of life); and

10 WHEREAS, Prematurity is the number one obstetric problem in
11 our nation, with one out of every eight babies, including one
12 out of every six African-American babies, born prematurely; and

13 WHEREAS, Prematurity is a major medical challenge in
14 obstetrics and pediatrics and a significant determinant of
15 morbidity and mortality in infancy and throughout the lifetime of
16 babies born prematurely; and

17 WHEREAS, A recent national survey conducted by the March of
18 Dimes found that only 35% of respondents identified prematurity
19 as "very serious" or "extremely serious"; and

20 WHEREAS, Pregnant women can benefit from new knowledge,
21 skills and technology and seek diagnosis and treatment for high-
22 risk medical conditions; and

23 WHEREAS, Early, regular preconception and prenatal care is a
24 pregnant woman's first line of defense for protecting her baby;
25 and

26 WHEREAS, Recommendations for a healthy pregnancy include
27 prevention of infections such as rubella, not using prescription
28 or over-the-counter medications without approval of a doctor and
29 avoiding tobacco, alcohol and illicit substances; therefore be
30 it

1 RESOLVED, That the House of Representatives recognize the
2 month of May 2006 as "Healthy Babies Month" in Pennsylvania and
3 urge parents and prospective parents to contact the March of
4 Dimes and allied health care organizations for literature on how
5 to prepare themselves before conception and during pregnancy.