

THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF PENNSYLVANIA

HOUSE RESOLUTION

No. 130 Session of
2011

INTRODUCED BY OBERLANDER, BAKER, BEAR, BOBACK, BRADFORD,
BRENNAN, BROOKS, CAUSER, CHRISTIANA, CLYMER, CUTLER, DALEY,
DAY, DeWEESE, DIGIROLAMO, ELLIS, EVERETT, FABRIZIO, FLECK,
FREEMAN, GABLER, GEIST, GEORGE, GINGRICH, GRELL, HAHN,
HARHART, HEFFLEY, HENNESSEY, HESS, HICKERNELL, HUTCHINSON,
M. K. KELLER, KNOWLES, KORTZ, LONGIETTI, MAHER, MAJOR,
MARSICO, MICOZZIE, MILLARD, MOUL, MUSTIO, PASHINSKI, PAYNE,
PAYTON, PEIFER, PICKETT, QUINN, REICHLEY, ROCK, ROSS,
SANTONI, SCAVELLO, SCHRODER, M. SMITH, SONNEY, STERN,
STEVENSON, SWANGER, TOOHL, VULAKOVICH, WATSON, WHITE AND
YOUNGBLOOD, MARCH 14, 2011

INTRODUCED AS NONCONTROVERSIAL RESOLUTION UNDER RULE 35, MARCH
14, 2011

A RESOLUTION

1 Designating the month of April 2011 as "Esophageal Cancer
2 Awareness and Prevention Month" in Pennsylvania.

3 WHEREAS, More than 16,000 people were diagnosed with
4 esophageal cancer in the United States in 2010, and more than
5 14,000 died from the disease; and

6 WHEREAS, Esophageal cancer is among the deadliest cancers,
7 and fewer than one in five patients will survive for five years;
8 and

9 WHEREAS, Esophageal cancer often is not detected and
10 diagnosed until the disease has reached the later stages, and
11 treatment is often radical and likely to cause complications and
12 poor outcomes; and

13 WHEREAS, One of the most common causes of esophageal cancer

1 is heartburn or gastroesophageal reflux disease (GERD), which is
2 viewed by many sufferers as an acceptable condition of life, but
3 GERD can lead to Barrett's Esophagus, a disorder that results in
4 as much as a 125-fold increase in the possibility that a person
5 will develop esophageal cancer; and

6 WHEREAS, With monitoring and treatment of GERD, the potential
7 for long-term irreversible damage leading to esophageal cancer
8 can be avoided; and

9 WHEREAS, Esophageal cancer can occur without reflux symptoms,
10 history of smoking or excessive alcohol use; and

11 WHEREAS, Esophageal cancer is among the cancers that receive
12 the least amount of Federal medical research funding; and

13 WHEREAS, The health and well-being of all Pennsylvanians will
14 be enhanced by improving esophageal cancer awareness, prevention
15 and funding for increased research into early detection and
16 treatment strategies; therefore be it

17 RESOLVED, That the House of Representatives designate the
18 month of April 2011 as "Esophageal Cancer Awareness and
19 Prevention Month" in Pennsylvania and encourage citizens to take
20 steps to prevent this disease through treatment of
21 gastroesophageal reflux disease.