

THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF PENNSYLVANIA

# HOUSE RESOLUTION

No. 539 Session of 2012

INTRODUCED BY HARHART, M. O'BRIEN, GEORGE, BROOKS, CALTAGIRONE, ADOLPH, AUMENT, BOBACK, D. COSTA, DEASY, DELOZIER, DeLUCA, DiGIROLAMO, J. EVANS, EVERETT, FLECK, GEIST, GILLESPIE, GINGRICH, GODSHALL, GOODMAN, HAHN, HARPER, HENNESSEY, HICKERNELL, KAVULICH, KILLION, KNOWLES, KORTZ, KOTIK, LONGIETTI, MAJOR, MANN, MARSHALL, MARSICO, MILLARD, MURT, MUSTIO, MYERS, OBERLANDER, O'NEILL, PICKETT, QUINN, READSHAW, ROCK, ROSS, SAINATO, SANTONI, SCAVELLO, CULVER, SONNEY, STERN, STEVENSON, SWANGER, THOMAS, TOOHL, VEREB, VULAKOVICH, WATSON AND RAVENSTAHL, JANUARY 23, 2012

INTRODUCED AS NONCONTROVERSIAL RESOLUTION UNDER RULE 35, JANUARY 23, 2012

## A RESOLUTION

1 Designating February 3, 2012, as "Wear Red for Women Day" in  
2 Pennsylvania.

3 WHEREAS, Currently eight million women in the United States  
4 are living with heart disease, yet only one in five American  
5 women believes that heart disease is her greatest health threat;  
6 and

7 WHEREAS, Ninety percent of women have one or more risk  
8 factors for developing heart disease; and

9 WHEREAS, Twenty-six percent of women die within a year of  
10 suffering a heart attack, compared with 19% of men; and

11 WHEREAS, While one in 30 American women dies from breast  
12 cancer each year, one in three dies of cardiovascular disease;  
13 and

1 WHEREAS, Cardiovascular disease claims the lives of more than  
2 419,000 American females each year, almost one death per minute;  
3 and

4 WHEREAS, Only 43% of African-American women and 44% of  
5 Hispanic women know that heart disease is their greatest health  
6 risk, compared with 60% of Caucasian women; and

7 WHEREAS, Nearly as many women die of heart disease, stroke  
8 and all other cardiovascular diseases than the next three  
9 leading causes of death combined, including all cancers; and

10 WHEREAS, Only 16% of women surveyed in 2009 identified  
11 cardiovascular disease as the greatest health problem facing  
12 them; and

13 WHEREAS, In women, heart disease is too often a silent  
14 killer, and less than a third of women in a recent survey  
15 reported any early warning signs such as chest pain or  
16 discomfort before a heart attack, compared with most men; and

17 WHEREAS, Common symptoms for women included pain of the jaw,  
18 arm or back, but most reported a delay in seeking treatment  
19 after the symptoms began of anywhere from 15 minutes to two  
20 weeks; and

21 WHEREAS, Women are less likely to call 911 for themselves  
22 when experiencing symptoms of a heart attack than they are if  
23 someone else were having a heart attack; and

24 WHEREAS, Go Red for Women® is the American Heart  
25 Association's national call to increase awareness about heart  
26 disease, the leading cause of death for women, and to inspire  
27 women to take charge of their heart health; and

28 WHEREAS, All women should learn their own personal risk for  
29 heart disease, using tools such as the American Heart  
30 Association's My Life Check, Go Red for Women® Heart CheckUp, Go

1 Red for Women® Better U, and by talking to their health care  
2 providers; and

3 WHEREAS, Making the right choices relating to proper  
4 nutrition, physical activity and other healthy lifestyle choices  
5 is essential to living a heart-healthy life; and

6 WHEREAS, The truth is our lives are in our hands, we can stop  
7 the number-one killer together by sharing the truth and we can  
8 be the difference between life and death; therefore be it

9 RESOLVED, That in recognition of the importance of the  
10 ongoing fight against heart disease and stroke, the House of  
11 Representatives designate Friday, February 3, 2012, as "Wear Red  
12 for Women Day" in Pennsylvania, and urge all citizens to show  
13 their support for women and the fight against heart disease by  
14 commemorating this day by the wearing of the color red, because  
15 by increasing awareness, speaking up about heart disease and  
16 empowering women to reduce their risk for cardiovascular  
17 disease, we can save thousands of lives each year.