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THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF PENNSYLVANIA

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HOUSE RESOLUTION

No. 369 Session of  
2013

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INTRODUCED BY D. COSTA, DIGIROLAMO, KORTZ, HENNESSEY, READSHAW,  
P. DALEY, MILLARD, PARKER, CLYMER, BAKER, KOTIK, O'BRIEN,  
SCHLOSSBERG, ROSS, V. BROWN, SNYDER, CALTAGIRONE, VEREB,  
HEFFLEY, YOUNGBLOOD, ROCK, HESS, BARRAR, MARSICO, FLECK,  
BISHOP, GOODMAN, MAHONEY, PEIFER, GINGRICH, DeLUCA, MAJOR AND  
MICOZZIE, JUNE 17, 2013

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INTRODUCED AS NONCONTROVERSIAL RESOLUTION UNDER RULE 35,  
JUNE 17, 2013

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A RESOLUTION

1 Recognizing October 29, 2013, as "Psoriasis Day" in Pennsylvania  
2 on behalf of the many individuals who suffer from psoriasis  
3 and psoriatic arthritis.

4 WHEREAS, Psoriasis is a common autoimmune disease that  
5 appears on the skin as red, itchy and scaly patches, affecting  
6 nearly 320,000 Pennsylvanians, 7.5 million Americans and 125  
7 million persons worldwide; and

8 WHEREAS, Numerous studies have concluded that psoriasis is  
9 linked to many other serious medical conditions, such as  
10 psoriatic arthritis, cardiovascular disease, cancer and  
11 lymphoma, chronic obstructive pulmonary disease (COPD), obesity  
12 and metabolic syndrome, diabetes, depression, sexual dysfunction  
13 and sleep apnea; and

14 WHEREAS, An observational study conducted by the American  
15 Medical Association found that patients with psoriasis have an  
16 increased risk of peripheral vascular disease, cerebrovascular

1 disease and ischemic heart disease; and

2 WHEREAS, The Department of Dermatology at the University of  
3 Pennsylvania declared that the risk of death for cardiovascular  
4 disease increases by 57% for individuals living with psoriasis;  
5 and

6 WHEREAS, The International Federation of Psoriasis  
7 Associations (IFPA) is a nonprofit organization of psoriasis  
8 support organizations around the world whose focus is to  
9 advocate for improved medical care and increased research  
10 programs as well as educate the public about this disease; and

11 WHEREAS, The IFPA has celebrated "World Psoriasis Day"  
12 annually since 2004 to rally support for psoriasis sufferers and  
13 to discuss significant issues affecting the world's psoriasis  
14 community; and

15 WHEREAS, The goal of the IFPA in establishing "World  
16 Psoriasis Day" is to raise awareness, improve access to  
17 treatment, increase understanding and build unity amongst the  
18 general public and people afflicted with psoriasis; and

19 WHEREAS, The National Psoriasis Foundation (NPF) is the  
20 leading organization in the nation advocating on behalf of those  
21 suffering from psoriasis as well as raising funds for research  
22 programs focused on finding a cure for this condition; and

23 WHEREAS, The NPF also represents the United States in the  
24 IFPA; and

25 WHEREAS, October 29, 2013, marks the 10th anniversary of  
26 "World Psoriasis Day," so designated by the IFPA in order to  
27 increase public awareness of psoriasis and psoriatic arthritis;  
28 therefore be it

29 RESOLVED, That the House of Representatives recognize October  
30 29, 2013, as "Psoriasis Day" in support of the efforts of the

1 advocacy groups in Pennsylvania, across the nation and around  
2 the globe that are dedicated to raising public awareness about  
3 this serious condition.