
THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF PENNSYLVANIA

HOUSE RESOLUTION

No. 673 Session of
2014

INTRODUCED BY GILLESPIE, READSHAW, KOTIK, KILLION, SONNEY, KIM,
LUCAS, KORTZ, PICKETT, KINSEY, CALTAGIRONE, DONATUCCI,
CUTLER, ROCK, MICOZZIE, MCNEILL, VEREB, O'NEILL, MURT,
MILLARD, HENNESSEY, BAKER, HARHART, HEFFLEY, DIGIROLAMO,
D. COSTA, ROSS, MARSICO, CLYMER, GROVE, GRELL, PETRI,
M. K. KELLER, GOODMAN, COHEN, GINGRICH, MAJOR, MAHONEY,
GILLEN, ROEBUCK, WATSON, FLECK AND QUINN, MARCH 10, 2014

INTRODUCED AS NONCONTROVERSIAL RESOLUTION UNDER RULE 35,
MARCH 10, 2014

A RESOLUTION

1 Designating the month of March 2014 as "Multiple System Atrophy
2 Awareness Month" in Pennsylvania.

3 WHEREAS, Multiple system atrophy (MSA) is a progressive,
4 neurodegenerative disease that typically affects people in their
5 50s and 60s and often results in symptoms that reflect the loss
6 of nerve cells in several different areas of the brain and
7 spinal cord that coordinate muscle movements and control the
8 autonomic nervous system; and

9 WHEREAS, MSA symptoms include difficulty chewing and
10 swallowing, slowness of movement, rigidity, sudden and frequent
11 falls and disrupted sleep patterns; and

12 WHEREAS, MSA, previously known by such names as Shy-Drager
13 Syndrome, sporadic olivopontocerebellar atrophy and
14 striatonigral degeneration, is not considered to be hereditary;
15 and

1 WHEREAS, Though fairly rare, this disorder is one that
2 presents social and medical hardships to afflicted individuals
3 and their families; and

4 WHEREAS, The current lack of awareness of MSA leads to
5 misdiagnosis and mistreatment, as well as misdirected research
6 funding that could be better applied to the MSA effort; and

7 WHEREAS, There is no cure for MSA and no current treatments
8 to delay the progress of neurodegeneration in the brain;
9 therefore be it

10 RESOLVED, That the House of Representatives designate the
11 month of March 2014 as "Multiple System Atrophy Awareness Month"
12 in Pennsylvania; and be it further

13 RESOLVED, That the House of Representatives encourage all
14 citizens throughout this Commonwealth to increase awareness and
15 education and support continued research and clinical care
16 efforts in the fight against MSA.