
THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF PENNSYLVANIA

SENATE RESOLUTION

No. 19 Session of
2015

INTRODUCED BY BREWSTER, BAKER, HAYWOOD, GREENLEAF, WOZNIAK,
VULAKOVICH, FONTANA, TEPLITZ, HUTCHINSON, ALLOWAY, SCHWANK,
HUGHES, COSTA, PILEGGI, KITCHEN, BROWNE, DINNIMAN, BLAKE,
SMITH AND RAFFERTY, FEBRUARY 4, 2015

INTRODUCED AND ADOPTED, FEBRUARY 4, 2015

A RESOLUTION

1 Designating February 7 through 14, 2015, as "Congenital Heart
2 Defect Awareness Week" in Pennsylvania.

3 WHEREAS, Congenital Heart Defect Awareness Week is an annual
4 awareness effort to help educate the public about congenital
5 heart defects; and

6 WHEREAS, Congenital heart defects are the most common birth
7 defect, annually affecting approximately one in every 125 babies
8 in the United States; and

9 WHEREAS, Designating Congenital Heart Defect Awareness Week
10 in this Commonwealth promotes greater public awareness about
11 these defects; and

12 WHEREAS, Congenital heart defects are the leading cause of
13 birth defect-related deaths worldwide; and

14 WHEREAS, Congenital heart defects kill twice as many children
15 as childhood cancer; and

16 WHEREAS, Newborn screening for congenital heart defects
17 involves a simple test called pulse oximetry; and

1 WHEREAS, Pulse oximetry screening is the most effective way
2 to detect critical congenital heart defects; and

3 WHEREAS, Each year, about 1,200 additional newborns with a
4 critical congenital heart defect could be identified using pulse
5 oximetry newborn screening; and

6 WHEREAS, Babies with a critical congenital heart defect need
7 surgery or other procedures in the first year of life; and

8 WHEREAS, The costs of critical congenital heart defect
9 screening is about \$5 to \$14 for each newborn baby screened; and

10 WHEREAS, There is a need for awareness and funding for
11 congenital heart defects; therefore be it

12 RESOLVED, That the Senate designate the week of February 7
13 through 14, 2015, as "Congenital Heart Defect Awareness Week" in
14 Pennsylvania.