THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF PENNSYLVANIA

HOUSE RESOLUTION

No. 477

Session of 2017

INTRODUCED BY MURT, BAKER, BIZZARRO, BOBACK, BURNS, CALTAGIRONE, CHARLTON, DiGIROLAMO, DONATUCCI, DUSH, FREEMAN, HENNESSEY, LONGIETTI, McNEILL, MILLARD, NEILSON, QUIGLEY, ROZZI, RYAN, SCHLOSSBERG, SCHWEYER, SONNEY, STURLA, THOMAS, TOOHIL, VAZQUEZ AND HELM, SEPTEMBER 7, 2017

INTRODUCED AS NONCONTROVERSIAL RESOLUTION UNDER RULE 35, SEPTEMBER 7, 2017

A RESOLUTION

Recognizing the month of September 2017 as "Fetal Alcohol Spectrum Disorder Awareness Month" in Pennsylvania in an effort to urge pregnant women not to drink alcohol and to remind women who are considering becoming pregnant to abstain 4 from drinking any type or amount of alcohol. 5 6 WHEREAS, Healthy children are one of this Commonwealth's greatest assets; and 8 WHEREAS, There is no safe amount of alcohol that a pregnant woman can drink and there is no time during pregnancy when it is 10 safe to consume alcohol; and WHEREAS, Fetal Alcohol Spectrum Disorder (FASD) is a group of 11 12 mental, physical and neurological birth defects, on a continuum from mild to severe, that are the direct result of alcohol use 13 14 during pregnancy; and 15 WHEREAS, According to the Centers for Disease Control and 16 Prevention, as many as three to five per one hundred babies may

be impacted by prenatal exposure to alcohol; and

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- 1 WHEREAS, More than 50% of women of childbearing age drink
- 2 alcohol and 10% of pregnant women drink alcohol; and
- 3 WHEREAS, Research is identifying effective interventions that
- 4 lessen the effects of brain damage, especially when FASD is
- 5 identified and treated early in childhood; therefore be it
- 6 RESOLVED, That the House of Representatives recognize the
- 7 month of September 2017 as "Fetal Alcohol Spectrum Disorder
- 8 Awareness Month" in Pennsylvania in an effort to urge pregnant
- 9 women not to drink alcohol and to remind women who are
- 10 considering becoming pregnant to abstain from drinking any type
- 11 or amount of alcohol; and be it further
- 12 RESOLVED, That it is the goal of the General Assembly to
- 13 raise awareness among its residents, particularly women of
- 14 childbearing age, regarding FASD prevention, diagnosis and
- 15 intervention.