
THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF PENNSYLVANIA

SENATE RESOLUTION

No. 403 Session of
2020

INTRODUCED BY MARTIN, AUMENT, MENSCH, BROWNE, PHILLIPS-HILL,
ARNOLD, BARTOLOTTA, J. WARD, LANGERHOLC, BROOKS, KILLION,
SCAVELLO, HUTCHINSON, GORDNER, YUDICHAK, PITTMAN, COSTA,
DINNIMAN AND FONTANA, OCTOBER 14, 2020

REFERRED TO RULES AND EXECUTIVE NOMINATIONS, OCTOBER 14, 2020

A RESOLUTION

1 Designating the month of October 2020 as "Down Syndrome
2 Awareness Month" in Pennsylvania.

3 WHEREAS, Down syndrome is a genetic condition that occurs in
4 approximately 1 in every 707 births; and

5 WHEREAS, The most common form of Down syndrome, trisomy 21,
6 is due to an error in cell division just prior to or during
7 conception, with the 21st chromosome dividing in three instead
8 of two, resulting in 47 chromosomes per cell instead of 46; and

9 WHEREAS, According to the most recent estimates of the
10 Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC), in 2008 there
11 were more than 250,000 individuals of various ethnic, racial,
12 religious and socioeconomic groups with Down syndrome living in
13 the United States; and

14 WHEREAS, Thanks to advances in medical treatments and
15 continuing research, life expectancy for individuals with Down
16 syndrome has increased from 10 years in 1960 to 47 years in 2007
17 according to the most recent CDC estimates; and

1 WHEREAS, Early intervention, appropriate speech, physical and
2 occupational therapies and quality education programs enable
3 individuals with Down syndrome to adapt and thrive; and

4 WHEREAS, With interventions, programs and the support of
5 family and community, individuals with Down syndrome attend
6 school and participate in postsecondary opportunities, with many
7 going on to college, obtaining full-time employment, entering
8 into marriage and fully participating in their communities;
9 therefore be it

10 RESOLVED, That the Senate designate the month of October 2020
11 as "Down Syndrome Awareness Month" in Pennsylvania, recognizing
12 the positive contributions of individuals with Down syndrome and
13 their families.