
THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF PENNSYLVANIA

HOUSE RESOLUTION

No. 751 Session of
2020

INTRODUCED BY READSHAW, BIZZARRO, MILLARD, KIM, PASHINSKI,
KOSIEROWSKI, MURT, MADDEN, KORTZ, LONGIETTI, SCHLOSSBERG,
RYAN, JAMES, YOUNGBLOOD, BROWN, SONNEY, BURNS, FREEMAN,
SCHLEGEL CULVER, GAINNEY, NEILSON, MEHAFFIE, DeLUCA AND
ROEBUCK, FEBRUARY 24, 2020

REFERRED TO COMMITTEE ON HEALTH, FEBRUARY 24, 2020

A RESOLUTION

1 Recognizing the month of May 2020 as "Lupus Awareness Month" in
2 Pennsylvania.

3 WHEREAS, Every day, an estimated 1.5 million Americans and 5
4 million people worldwide struggle with the debilitating
5 consequences of lupus, a potentially fatal autoimmune disease
6 that can damage any part of a lupus patient's body; and

7 WHEREAS, In an autoimmune disease such as lupus, the immune
8 system effectively loses its way and, instead of warding off
9 foreign invaders like viruses and bacteria, attacks healthy
10 cells, causing inflammation and pain and leading to permanent
11 damage; and

12 WHEREAS, Lupus has no cure and no known cause, and, despite
13 the current treatment and available medications, many lupus
14 patients have symptoms that cannot be managed well enough for
15 patients to lead normal lives, complete their education and
16 maintain employment; and

1 WHEREAS, Nine out of ten people with lupus are women, and 80%
2 of new cases are diagnosed in women between 15 and 44 years of
3 age, with the majority of new cases seen in women in their late
4 teens and early 20s; and

5 WHEREAS, Although the disease is most frequently seen in
6 those patients, individuals of any age or gender can develop
7 lupus; and

8 WHEREAS, Lupus was identified as a disease in 1872, but is an
9 underrecognized public health problem that attracts rare
10 attention and funding for research for a cure; and

11 WHEREAS, Lupus is often referred to as "the disease that
12 fools," due to the patient's unawareness of its presence for
13 extended periods of time; and

14 WHEREAS, The Lupus Foundation of America, Philadelphia Tri-
15 State Chapter, a nonprofit volunteer health organization with a
16 history of service since the early 1970s, provides supportive
17 services to the victims of lupus, funds medical research into
18 the disease's causes and possible treatments and educates the
19 public concerning the realities of lupus; therefore be it

20 RESOLVED, That the House of Representatives recognize the
21 month of May 2020 as "Lupus Awareness Month" in Pennsylvania to
22 give more attention and awareness to the disease.