

THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF PENNSYLVANIA

HOUSE RESOLUTION

No. 823 Session of 2014

INTRODUCED BY FABRIZIO, SCHLOSSBERG, VEREB, MCGEEHAN, DIGIROLAMO, O'NEILL, MCNEILL, SONNEY, MIRABITO, BISHOP, B. BOYLE, NEILSON, COHEN, READSHAW, WHITE, KINSEY, BIZZARRO, MILLARD, J. HARRIS, MUSTIO, CLAY, STERN, LONGIETTI, YOUNGBLOOD, WHEATLEY, O'BRIEN, BAKER, KILLION, CALTAGIRONE, MAJOR, MILNE, FREEMAN, GRELL, R. BROWN, PASHINSKI, CUTLER, WATSON, ROSS, SCHLEGEL CULVER, MURT, FRANKEL, MCCARTER, MARSICO, DENLINGER, KORTZ, GOODMAN, DeLUCA, PICKETT, D. COSTA, CLYMER, BRADFORD, LUCAS, MICOZZIE, SCAVELLO, KOTIK, THOMAS, ENGLISH, EVERETT, HENNESSEY, V. BROWN AND W. KELLER, APRIL 29, 2014

INTRODUCED AS NONCONTROVERSIAL RESOLUTION UNDER RULE 35, APRIL 29, 2014

A RESOLUTION

1 Designating May 2014 as "Hepatitis Awareness Month" and May 19,  
2 2014, as "Hepatitis Testing Day" in Pennsylvania.

3 WHEREAS, Hepatitis is the inflammation of the liver caused by  
4 several viruses which could lead to liver cancer or other  
5 chronic liver diseases associated with hepatitis; and

6 WHEREAS, Approximately 15,000 Americans die from liver cancer  
7 or other chronic liver diseases every year; and

8 WHEREAS, New cases of liver cancer are highest among  
9 Americans of Asian or Pacific-Island descent and are increasing  
10 in African Americans, baby boomers and men; and

11 WHEREAS, Chronic hepatitis B and hepatitis C infections are a  
12 silent epidemic affecting more than 5 million Americans; and

13 WHEREAS, More than 10,000 Pennsylvanians in 2013 and more

1 than 130,000 Pennsylvanians over the last decade have been  
2 diagnosed with hepatitis; and

3 WHEREAS, Although certain strands of hepatitis are  
4 preventable by a recommended vaccination, it is estimated that  
5 up to 75% of individuals infected with hepatitis are unaware of  
6 their condition; and

7 WHEREAS, The Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC)  
8 has designated May as National Hepatitis Awareness Month in  
9 hopes of highlighting the serious damage hepatitis can cause to  
10 the liver of the many Americans unaware of their infection; and

11 WHEREAS, The CDC has designated May 19, 2014, as National  
12 Hepatitis Testing Day hoping to increase screening and testing  
13 rates and reduce the burden of illness and death caused by  
14 hepatitis; therefore be it

15 RESOLVED, That the House of Representatives designate May  
16 2014 as "Hepatitis Awareness Month" and May 19, 2014, as  
17 "Hepatitis Testing Day" in Pennsylvania and encourage health  
18 care providers and Pennsylvanians to be tested for chronic viral  
19 hepatitis.