
THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF PENNSYLVANIA

HOUSE RESOLUTION

No. 221 Session of
2007

INTRODUCED BY HICKERNELL, BAKER, BEYER, BIANCUCCI, BOBACK,
BROOKS, CLYMER, COHEN, COSTA, COX, CREIGHTON, DENLINGER,
DIGIROLAMO, DONATUCCI, D. EVANS, FABRIZIO, GALLOWAY, GEIST,
GEORGE, GIBBONS, GILLESPIE, GOODMAN, HENNESSEY, HERSHEY,
HESS, HUTCHINSON, JAMES, KENNEY, KILLION, KORTZ, KULA,
MAHONEY, MAJOR, MANN, MANTZ, MARKOSEK, MARSICO, MCGEEHAN,
MCILHATTAN, MELIO, MILLARD, MOYER, MURT, MUSTIO, NAILOR,
PALLONE, PAYNE, PHILLIPS, PICKETT, QUINN, RAMALEY, RAPP,
READSHAW, REICHLEY, ROHRER, ROSS, RUBLEY, SAINATO, SCAVELLO,
SIPTROTH, SOLOBAY, SONNEY, STERN, SURRA, TANGRETTI,
R. TAYLOR, THOMAS, VEREB, VULAKOVICH, WALKO, WOJNAROSKI AND
YOUNGBLOOD, APRIL 18, 2007

INTRODUCED AS NONCONTROVERSIAL RESOLUTION UNDER RULE 35,
APRIL 18, 2007

A RESOLUTION

1 Designating May 12, 2007, as "Fibromyalgia Awareness Day" in
2 Pennsylvania.

3 WHEREAS, An estimated 10 million people in the United States,
4 including 6% to 8% of the population of our country, and
5 millions of people worldwide, have been diagnosed with
6 fibromyalgia, a disease for which there is no known cause or
7 cure; and

8 WHEREAS, Fibromyalgia is a chronic illness increasing at
9 epidemic rates, which causes fatigue and debilitating pain in
10 women, men and children of all ages and races; and

11 WHEREAS, Patients with this illness often have to learn to
12 live with widespread pain throughout their bodies, extreme

1 fatigue, sleep disorders, stiffness and weakness, migraine
2 headaches, numbness and tingling, and impairment of memory and
3 concentration; and

4 WHEREAS, It often takes an average of five years to receive a
5 diagnosis of fibromyalgia, and medical professionals frequently
6 are inadequately educated on fibromyalgia diagnosis and
7 treatment; and

8 WHEREAS, It is necessary that we recognize the medical
9 research demonstrating biochemical abnormalities in people with
10 fibromyalgia; and

11 WHEREAS, Fibromyalgia in children and young adults presents
12 unique challenges for this population who suffer not only from
13 the symptoms of this illness but also from the lack of
14 understanding and social acceptance; and

15 WHEREAS, People with fibromyalgia face discrimination from
16 employers, friends, family and the judicial system while dealing
17 with the ongoing stress of living with an unpredictable disease
18 and an uncertain future; and

19 WHEREAS, Employers could support their employees with
20 fibromyalgia by making adaptations to the work environment so
21 that people with fibromyalgia could continue to function at work
22 and not be forced to file for disability; and

23 WHEREAS, The National Fibromyalgia Association and other
24 fibromyalgia support organizations around our country have
25 joined together to promote fibromyalgia awareness and support,
26 including improved education, diagnosis, research and treatment;
27 and

28 WHEREAS, Understanding this illness will help guarantee hope
29 for a better future for people with fibromyalgia; therefore be
30 it

1 RESOLVED, That the House of Representatives recognize the
2 needs of these chronically ill people and designate May 12,
3 2007, as "Fibromyalgia Awareness Day" in Pennsylvania and urge
4 all of our citizens to support the search for a cure and assist
5 those individuals and families who deal with this devastating
6 disease on a daily basis.