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THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF PENNSYLVANIA

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# HOUSE RESOLUTION

No. 508      Session of  
2007

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INTRODUCED BY HANNA, BAKER, BRENNAN, CONKLIN, CURRY, DONATUCCI,  
FABRIZIO, FLECK, FRANKEL, GEORGE, GIBBONS, GOODMAN, GRUCELA,  
HERSHEY, HESS, HORNAMAN, JAMES, KOTIK, KULA, MAHONEY, MAJOR,  
MANTZ, MILLARD, MOYER, MURT, M. O'BRIEN, O'NEILL, PALLONE,  
PARKER, PASHINSKI, PHILLIPS, REICHLEY, ROEBUCK, RUBLEY,  
SAINATO, SANTONI, SHIMKUS, SIPTROTH, SOLOBAY, SWANGER,  
J. WHITE, WOJNAROSKI AND YOUNGBLOOD, NOVEMBER 19, 2007

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INTRODUCED AS NONCONTROVERSIAL RESOLUTION UNDER RULE 35,  
NOVEMBER 19, 2007

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## A RESOLUTION

1 Designating February 1, 2008, as "Peripartum Cardiomyopathy  
2 Awareness Day" in Pennsylvania; and urging the National  
3 Institutes of Health to recognize "Peripartum Cardiomyopathy  
4 Awareness Day" and to advance research relating to peripartum  
5 cardiomyopathy.

6 WHEREAS, Peripartum cardiomyopathy is a rare disorder in  
7 which a weakened heart is diagnosed within the final month of  
8 pregnancy or within five months after delivery; and

9 WHEREAS, In the United States peripartum cardiomyopathy  
10 complicates one in every 1,300 to 4,000 deliveries; and

11 WHEREAS, Peripartum cardiomyopathy occurs in childbearing  
12 women of any age but most commonly occurs after 30 years of age;  
13 and

14 WHEREAS, Peripartum cardiomyopathy is most likely to develop  
15 in African-American women living in the South but can occur in a  
16 pregnant or postpartum woman of any age or geographic location;

1 and

2 WHEREAS, Death rates associated with peripartum  
3 cardiomyopathy have ranged between 18% and 56%; and

4 WHEREAS, Recent effective treatment of peripartum  
5 cardiomyopathy has progressively improved survival and recovery  
6 to rates of 95% or more, without the need for heart transplant;  
7 and

8 WHEREAS, With treatment, women affected by this disorder can  
9 have improved heart function and live full and active lives; and

10 WHEREAS, Compliance with prescription instructions, medical  
11 guidelines and physician directives is important to  
12 cardiovascular health, particularly for women with peripartum  
13 cardiomyopathy; therefore be it

14 RESOLVED, That the House of Representatives of the  
15 Commonwealth of Pennsylvania designate February 1, 2008, as  
16 "Peripartum Cardiomyopathy Awareness Day" in Pennsylvania and  
17 urge all residents to recognize that peripartum cardiomyopathy  
18 is a serious women's health threat; and be it further

19 RESOLVED, That the House of Representatives urge the National  
20 Institutes of Health to recognize "Peripartum Cardiomyopathy  
21 Awareness Day" and to seek appropriate funding for research  
22 aimed at obtaining a better understanding of this high-risk  
23 condition of pregnancy; and be it further

24 RESOLVED, That the House of Representatives challenge all  
25 women to take charge of their cardiovascular health and take the  
26 necessary preventive steps to healthy lives and pregnancies; and  
27 be it further

28 RESOLVED, That a copy of this resolution be transmitted to  
29 the National Institutes of Health, 9000 Rockville Pike,  
30 Bethesda, MD 20892.