

THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF PENNSYLVANIA

# HOUSE RESOLUTION

No. 410 Session of  
2010

INTRODUCED BY TALLMAN, BAKER, BEAR, BELFANTI, BEYER, BRADFORD,  
BROOKS, CLYMER, D. COSTA, DALEY, FLECK, GEIST, GEORGE,  
GINGRICH, GRUCELA, HAHN, HELM, HENNESSEY, HESS, KILLION,  
KNOWLES, LONGIETTI, MAJOR, MARSICO, MICCARELLI, MILLARD,  
MILLER, MOUL, MUSTIO, O'NEILL, PHILLIPS, QUINN, READSHAW,  
ROCK, ROSS, SAYLOR, SIPTROTH, SONNEY, STERN, SWANGER AND  
VULAKOVICH, AUGUST 4, 2010

INTRODUCED AS NONCONTROVERSIAL RESOLUTION UNDER RULE 35, AUGUST  
4, 2010

## A RESOLUTION

1 Recognizing September 20, 2010, as "Stevens-Johnson Syndrome  
2 Awareness Day" in Pennsylvania.

3 WHEREAS, Stevens-Johnson syndrome, referred to as SJS is a  
4 severe adverse reaction to medication accounting for  
5 approximately 150,000 deaths per year in the United States  
6 alone; and

7 WHEREAS, Some of the symptoms of SJS are facial and tongue  
8 swelling, hives, skin pain, shedding of the skin and blisters on  
9 the skin or mucous membranes, particularly the mouth, nose and  
10 eyes; and

11 WHEREAS, The exact cause of SJS has not been determined. It  
12 has been suggested that it is caused by either an illness,  
13 bacterial infection or allergic reaction to medication; and

14 WHEREAS, Almost any medication, including over-the-counter  
15 drugs, can cause SJS, most commonly implicated are

1 anticonvulsants, antibiotics and nonsteroid antiinflammatory  
2 medications; and

3 WHEREAS, Illnesses that are associated with SJS are herpes,  
4 flu, HIV, typhoid, hepatitis and diphtheria; and

5 WHEREAS, Although SJS afflicts people of all ages, a  
6 significant number of its victims are children; and

7 WHEREAS, More female cases have been reported than males,  
8 however it does not discriminate against anyone; and

9 WHEREAS, Recognition of the early symptoms of SJS and prompt  
10 medical attention are the most invaluable tools in minimizing  
11 the possible long-term effects SJS may have on its victims; and

12 WHEREAS, There are no tests that can be administered to  
13 determine who is at a greater risk for contracting SJS; and

14 WHEREAS, Improving the length and quality of life for people  
15 with SJS starts with awareness; therefore be it

16 RESOLVED, That the House of Representatives recognize  
17 September 20, 2010 as "Stevens-Johnson Syndrome Awareness Day"  
18 in Pennsylvania.