

THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF PENNSYLVANIA

HOUSE RESOLUTION

No. 709 Session of 2010

INTRODUCED BY HICKERNELL, ADOLPH, BAKER, BEAR, BEYER, BOYD, BRADFORD, CALTAGIRONE, CIVERA, CLYMER, COHEN, CONKLIN, D. COSTA, CREIGHTON, CUTLER, DALEY, DeLUCA, DiGIROLAMO, DONATUCCI, EVERETT, FAIRCHILD, GEIST, GEORGE, GIBBONS, GILLESPIE, GINGRICH, GOODMAN, GRUCELA, HARKINS, HELM, HENNESSEY, HESS, KILLION, KNOWLES, KORTZ, KOTIK, KULA, MAHONEY, MAJOR, MANN, MARKOSEK, MARSICO, McCALL, MICOZZIE, MILLARD, MILNE, MOUL, MURT, MUSTIO, OBERLANDER, D. O'BRIEN, PAYNE, PHILLIPS, PICKETT, REICHLEY, ROHRER, ROSS, SAINATO, SANTONI, SCAVELLO, SIPTROTH, SONNEY, STABACK, STERN, SWANGER, TRUE, VEREB, VULAKOVICH, WATSON, YOUNGBLOOD AND BRENNAN, MARCH 24, 2010

INTRODUCED AS NONCONTROVERSIAL RESOLUTION UNDER RULE 35, MARCH 24, 2010

A RESOLUTION

1 Designating May 12, 2010, as "Fibromyalgia Awareness Day" in
2 Pennsylvania.

3 WHEREAS, "Fibromyalgia Awareness Day" observances are held
4 each May in this Commonwealth, nationally and internationally;
5 and

6 WHEREAS, Fibromyalgia is the most common chronic pain
7 disorder, affecting 3% to 5% of the world population; and

8 WHEREAS, An estimated 10 million people in the United States
9 are living with fibromyalgia; and

10 WHEREAS, Health care costs among those persons are three
11 times higher than costs among the general population; and

12 WHEREAS, Total annual fibromyalgia-associated health care

costs in the United States are \$12 billion to \$14 billion; and

WHEREAS, Fibromyalgia causes long-term, body-wide musculoskeletal pain and stiffness as well as fatigue; and

WHEREAS, Diagnosis is based on reported symptoms: there is no accurate fibromyalgia-specific imaging or diagnostic testing; and

WHEREAS, Fibromyalgia incidence increases with age; and

WHEREAS, Fibromyalgia affects both sexes, with a greater prevalence among women; and

WHEREAS, Juvenile fibromyalgia is more common among girls; and

WHEREAS, Approved drugs reduce pain and improve quality of sleep and function but do not cure fibromyalgia; and

WHEREAS, Since 1997 the National Fibromyalgia Association has joined other fibromyalgia support organizations and patient advocates in coordinating "Fibromyalgia Awareness Day" events; and

WHEREAS, The national 2010 campaign, "Make Fibromyalgia Visible," is aimed at bringing hope, through public knowledge, to persons living with this highly disabling disorder which has no outward signs; therefore be it

RESOLVED, That the House of Representatives designate May 12, 2010, as "Fibromyalgia Awareness Day" in Pennsylvania and urge support for fibromyalgia-related research and resources in our communities and improved therapies and quality of life for affected persons.