

THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF PENNSYLVANIA

HOUSE RESOLUTION

No. 858 Session of
2012

INTRODUCED BY SANTARSIERO, WATSON, ROCK, BISHOP, LONGIETTI,
SAYLOR, MILLARD, PARKER, KOTIK, MATZIE, HARHART, FRANKEL,
SCAVELLO, YOUNGBLOOD, SONNEY, EVERETT, DIGIROLAMO, ROSS,
PYLE, BRENNAN, DAVIS, JAMES, CALTAGIRONE, K. BOYLE, READSHAW,
HARHAI, GINGRICH, GEORGE, VEREB, DALEY, KILLION, HAHN,
KNOWLES AND CUTLER, SEPTEMBER 25, 2012

INTRODUCED AS NONCONTROVERSIAL RESOLUTION UNDER RULE 35,
SEPTEMBER 25, 2012

A RESOLUTION

1 Designating the month of September 2012 as "Thyroid Cancer
2 Awareness Month" in Pennsylvania.

3 WHEREAS, The thyroid gland is a small gland located at the
4 base of the throat that secretes hormones which control weight,
5 heart rate, blood pressure and body temperature; and

6 WHEREAS, Thyroid cancer is the most common form of endocrine
7 cancer and the fastest growing cancer in men as well as women;
8 and

9 WHEREAS, Thyroid cancer can occur in all age groups; and

10 WHEREAS, The greatest number of cases is found in persons
11 between the ages of 25 and 60 and is three times as likely to be
12 found in women than in men; and

13 WHEREAS, The chance of being diagnosed with thyroid cancer
14 has increased considerably in recent years and is now more than
15 twice what it was in 1990; and

1 WHEREAS, Advances in technology, such as the increased use of
2 ultrasound tests of the thyroid, enables a physician to see
3 small nodules that could not have been previously detected; and

4 WHEREAS, According to the National Cancer Institute at the
5 National Institutes of Health, more than 56,000 new cases of
6 thyroid cancer will be diagnosed in 2012, with more than 43,000
7 of these cases being diagnosed in women; and

8 WHEREAS, The mortality rate for thyroid cancer has remained
9 relatively stable over time and is low when compared to other
10 types of cancers, and it is estimated that approximately 1,800
11 patients will succumb to thyroid cancer in 2012; and

12 WHEREAS, Although the exact cause of thyroid cancer has not
13 been identified, risk factors include a diet low in iodine,
14 exposure to radiation such as that for certain medical
15 procedures or tests and heredity; and

16 WHEREAS, According to a study conducted by the Centers for
17 Disease Control and Prevention, Pennsylvania ranked as the
18 number one state in thyroid cancer-related cases between 2001
19 and 2005, with 12.8 cases per 100,000 residents; and

20 WHEREAS, For that same time period, Bucks, Lancaster, Lehigh,
21 Luzerne, Northampton and York counties fell within the top 18
22 counties nationwide for the highest number of thyroid
23 cancer-related cases; therefore be it

24 RESOLVED, That the House of Representatives recognize the
25 need to raise public awareness with regard to the increasing
26 rates of thyroid-related cancer in this Commonwealth and urge
27 its citizens to have regular examinations in order to ensure
28 early detection, and be it further

29 RESOLVED, That the House of Representatives join with the
30 American Cancer Society to designate September 2012 as "Thyroid

1 Cancer Awareness Month" in Pennsylvania.