
THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF PENNSYLVANIA

HOUSE RESOLUTION

No. 86 Session of
2017

INTRODUCED BY DAVIS, FEBRUARY 14, 2017

INTRODUCED AS NONCONTROVERSIAL RESOLUTION UNDER RULE 35,
FEBRUARY 14, 2017

A RESOLUTION

1 Designating January 15, 2017, as "Krabbe Disease Awareness Day"
2 in Pennsylvania.

3 WHEREAS, Globoid cell leukodystrophy, or Krabbe disease, is
4 caused by the shortage of an enzyme called galactosylceramidase;
5 and

6 WHEREAS, The enzyme shortage impairs the growth and
7 maintenance of myelin resulting in central nervous system
8 disruptions; and

9 WHEREAS, The disease affects muscle tone and movement and may
10 cause vision and hearing loss, among other devastating effects;
11 and

12 WHEREAS, In most cases, Krabbe disease develops in babies
13 before six months of age, although it can occur in older
14 children and in adults; and

15 WHEREAS, The symptoms of Krabbe disease include feeding
16 difficulties, unexplained crying, loss of head control, fevers,
17 vomiting, extreme irritability, changes in muscle tone, limb and
18 muscle stiffness, poor coordination of movements, seizures,

1 progressive loss of hearing and sight, spasticity and loss of
2 developmental milestones; and

3 WHEREAS, Most children who develop Krabbe disease in infancy
4 die before the age of two, most often from respiratory failure
5 or complications of immobility and markedly decreased muscle
6 tone; and

7 WHEREAS, There is no cure for Krabbe disease and treatment
8 mainly involves easing symptoms; and

9 WHEREAS, Krabbe disease affects approximately 1 in every
10 100,000 people in the United States; therefore be it

11 RESOLVED, That the House of Representatives recognize January
12 15, 2017, as "Krabbe Disease Awareness Day" in Pennsylvania.