
THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF PENNSYLVANIA

HOUSE RESOLUTION

No. 671 Session of
2018

INTRODUCED BY READSHAW, CARROLL, O'NEILL, PASHINSKI, KORTZ,
SCHLOSSBERG, DIGIROLAMO, FREEMAN, CALTAGIRONE, D. COSTA,
DEASY, J. McNEILL, NEILSON, HENNESSEY, WARD, KINSEY, HILL-
EVANS, THOMAS, TOOHL, DUSH, SONNEY, DOWLING, LONGIETTI,
YOUNGBLOOD, CHARLTON, KULIK, KIRKLAND, MILLARD, MURT,
MARSICO, DeLUCA, SCHWEYER AND RYAN, JANUARY 31, 2018

INTRODUCED AS NONCONTROVERSIAL RESOLUTION UNDER RULE 35,
JANUARY 31, 2018

A RESOLUTION

1 Designating the week of March 4 through 10, 2018, as "Spinal CSF
2 Leak Awareness Week" in Pennsylvania.

3 WHEREAS, Spinal cerebrospinal fluid (CSF) leak, also known as
4 intracranial hypotension, is a significant, disabling and
5 underdiagnosed but treatable cause of new-onset headache; and

6 WHEREAS, CSF bathes and supports the brain and spinal cord;
7 and

8 WHEREAS, When the connective tissue known as dura that holds
9 CSF in around the spinal cord has a hole or tear, the result is
10 a loss of CSF volume; and

11 WHEREAS, The most common symptom is a disabling positional
12 headache that is worse when upright and improved when lying
13 down; and

14 WHEREAS, Spinal CSF leaks may cause a wide range of symptoms
15 and serious complications, including stroke, dementia,

1 Parkinsonism, coma and even death; and

2 WHEREAS, The causes of spinal CSF leaks include those that
3 arise from trauma or medical procedures as well as those that
4 occur spontaneously; and

5 WHEREAS, Diagnosis is often missed or delayed due to low
6 awareness among health care providers, contributing to
7 additional suffering; and

8 WHEREAS, The sensitivity of diagnostic imaging is currently
9 inadequate to confirm a diagnosis or locate a leak in many
10 cases, which impacts treatment options and outcomes; and

11 WHEREAS, Current treatment options are limited to epidural
12 patching procedures and a range of neurosurgical procedures; and

13 WHEREAS, The incidence and prevalence of this disorder has
14 been challenging to study due to underdiagnosis; and

15 WHEREAS, Funding for research is lacking; and

16 WHEREAS, Greater awareness and understanding is vital to
17 ensure the diagnosis, treatment and best possible outcomes for
18 patients; therefore be it

19 RESOLVED, That the House of Representatives designate the
20 week of March 4 through 10, 2018, as "Spinal CSF Leak Awareness
21 Week" in Pennsylvania and recognize the importance of
22 understanding the impact of this disorder.