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THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF PENNSYLVANIA

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# SENATE RESOLUTION

No. 464 Session of  
2018

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INTRODUCED BY MARTIN, BARTOLOTTA, SABATINA, EICHELBERGER,  
BOSCOLA, DINNIMAN, FONTANA, BROWNE, BAKER, GORDNER, KILLION,  
SCHWANK, GREENLEAF, AUMENT, WHITE, RAFFERTY, BREWSTER,  
YUDICHAK, MENSCH, HUGHES, ARGALL, FOLMER, RESCHENTHALER,  
COSTA AND WARD, OCTOBER 15, 2018

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INTRODUCED AND ADOPTED, OCTOBER 15, 2018

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## A RESOLUTION

1 Designating the month of October 2018 as "Down Syndrome  
2 Awareness Month" in Pennsylvania.

3 WHEREAS, Down syndrome is a genetic condition that occurs in  
4 approximately 1 in every 700 births; and

5 WHEREAS, The most common form of Down syndrome, trisomy 21,  
6 is due to an error in cell division, just prior to or during  
7 conception, with the 21st chromosome dividing in three instead  
8 of two, resulting in a person being born with 47 instead of 46  
9 chromosomes in each cell; and

10 WHEREAS, There are more than 400,000 individuals of various  
11 ethnic, racial, religious and socioeconomic groups with Down  
12 syndrome living in the United States; and

13 WHEREAS, Thanks to advances in medical treatments and  
14 continuing research, life expectancy for individuals with Down  
15 syndrome has increased from 25 years of age in 1983 to 60 years  
16 of age today; and

1       WHEREAS, Early intervention, appropriate speech, physical and  
2 occupational therapies and quality education programs enable  
3 individuals with Down syndrome to adapt and thrive; and

4       WHEREAS, With interventions and programs and the support of  
5 family and community, individuals with Down syndrome attend  
6 school and participate in postsecondary opportunities, with many  
7 going on to college, obtaining full-time employment, entering  
8 into marriage and fully participating in their communities;  
9 therefore be it

10      RESOLVED, That the Senate designate the month of October 2018  
11 as "Down Syndrome Awareness Month" in Pennsylvania, recognizing  
12 the positive contributions that individuals with Down syndrome  
13 and their families make to our communities in the nation and in  
14 this Commonwealth.