A RESOLUTION

Designating the month of October 2020 as "Dyslexia Awareness Month" in Pennsylvania.

WHEREAS, Developmental reading disorder, or dyslexia, is a language-based learning disability that occurs when there is a problem in areas of the brain that help interpret language; and

WHEREAS, Dyslexia's symptoms include slow or inaccurate reading, poor spelling, poor writing or mixing up similar words; and

WHEREAS, Problems experienced by people with dyslexia may include:

(1) confusing letters or having difficulty learning the sounds that go with letters;

(2) having trouble learning how to speak, recognizing words or determining the meaning of a simple sentence; and

(3) having trouble processing the sounds of language,
such as rhyming; and

WHEREAS, Dyslexia can include disorganization of written and spoken language or struggles in comprehending and concentrating on longer reading assignments; and

WHEREAS, Dyslexia may also include difficulty in correctly performing math operations, memorizing number facts or learning a foreign language; and

WHEREAS, Dyslexia is a specific information processing problem that does not interfere with one's ability to think or understand complex ideas; and

WHEREAS, Dyslexia is not caused by a lack of desire to learn and affects people of all backgrounds and intellectual levels, with the majority of individuals being of normal intelligence and many being above average in intelligence; and

WHEREAS, Students with dyslexia are likely to struggle with many aspects of academic learning, are at a higher risk of dropping out of school entirely and often go for years without being properly diagnosed; and

WHEREAS, Aside from problems in school, an individual with dyslexia can experience a loss of self-esteem and general reading problems that may persist into adulthood, which can affect the individual's job performance; and

WHEREAS, According to the International Dyslexia Association, approximately 85% of students classified as having a primary learning disability have difficulty in reading and language processing; and

WHEREAS, The number of people having some symptoms of dyslexia is much higher, perhaps as much as 15% to 20% of the entire United States population; and
WHEREAS, There is much hope for students who are correctly diagnosed with this disorder, as they can successfully learn with appropriate teaching methods; and
WHEREAS, The earlier that dyslexia is diagnosed, the better for the student; and
WHEREAS, Dyslexia is a disorder that often manifests among members of the same family; and
WHEREAS, While dyslexia affects individuals throughout their lives, its impact can change at different stages of life; and
WHEREAS, Dyslexia is an often misunderstood language-based disability, and a large percentage of residents of this Commonwealth experience one or more symptoms of this disorder;
therefore be it
RESOLVED, That the House of Representatives designate the month of October 2020 as "Dyslexia Awareness Month" in Pennsylvania.