A RESOLUTION

Celebrating Penn State Health Milton S. Hershey Medical Center's 50th anniversary on October 14, 2020; and recognizing the health care workers at Penn State Health Milton S. Hershey Medical Center who deliver safe and compassionate health care services that improve the health and quality of life for residents of the central Pennsylvania region.

WHEREAS, In 1963, Samuel L. Hinkle, former president and chairman of the Hershey Chocolate Corporation, contacted Dr. Eric E. Walker, former president of The Pennsylvania State University, to discuss the establishment of a medical school and teaching hospital in Hershey, Pennsylvania; and

WHEREAS, The M.S. Hershey Foundation gave a $50 million gift to The Pennsylvania State University for the project, which combined with the $21.3 million received from the United States Public Health Service allowed The Pennsylvania State University to build Penn State Health Milton S. Hershey Medical Center and Penn State College of Medicine; and

WHEREAS, In 1966, construction began for Penn State Health
Milton S. Hershey Medical Center and Penn State College of Medicine; and

WHEREAS, Penn State College of Medicine opened its doors to the first class of students in 1967, awarded its first degree in 1969 and graduated its first full class during 1971; and

WHEREAS, The Penn State Health Milton S. Hershey Medical Center accepted its first patient on October 14, 1970; and

WHEREAS, During the last 50 years, Penn State Health Milton S. Hershey Medical Center has been a pioneer in health care delivery, clinical innovation and medical research; and

WHEREAS, Penn State Health Milton S. Hershey Medical Center has been on the leading-edge of health care innovation, including the accomplishment of all of the following health care milestones:

1. The development of the world's first artificial heart.
2. The establishment of the nation's first Department of Family Medicine and Department of Humanities.
3. The discovery of vaccine testing, which has led to the development of the cervical cancer vaccine.
4. Leading the use of clinical simulation.
5. Recently, becoming 1 of approximately 100 hospitals internationally participating in an ongoing study of the investigational antiviral drug remdesivir for treatment of COVID-19;

and

WHEREAS, Penn State College of Medicine received more than $102 million in research funding for fiscal year 2020, with $70 million from the National Institutes of Health, the highest amount of funding provided by the National Institutes of Health.
WHEREAS, Penn State Health Milton S. Hershey Medical Center, with 564 beds, is recognized as one of the nation's premier academic health care centers, providing high-level and patient-focused medical care; and

WHEREAS, The Hershey campus includes all of the following:

(1) Penn State Children's Hospital, the region's only children's hospital.

(2) Institutes focused on cancer, heart and vascular disease and the neurosciences.

(3) Penn State College of Medicine;

and

WHEREAS, Penn State Health Milton S. Hershey Medical Center has the only Level 1 Trauma Center for both adult and pediatric patients in this Commonwealth, which has served more than 1.2 million people; and

WHEREAS, Penn State Health Milton S. Hershey Medical Center and Penn State College of Medicine employ more than 11,000 people, including 1,100 physicians and health care providers and 2,288 nurses; and

WHEREAS, Through the efforts of thousands of staff, faculty and students, Penn State Health Milton S. Hershey Medical Center and Penn State College of Medicine have built upon the legacy of Milton S. Hershey and expanded substantially the reach of The Pennsylvania State University by improving the health and the quality of life of this Commonwealth and our nation; therefore

be it

RESOLVED, That the House of Representatives celebrate Penn State Health Milton S. Hershey Medical Center's 50th anniversary on October 14, 2020; and be it further
RESOLVED, That the House of Representatives recognize the health care workers at Penn State Health Milton S. Hershey Medical Center, who deliver safe and compassionate health care services that improve the health and quality of life for residents of the central Pennsylvania region.