

THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF PENNSYLVANIA

SENATE RESOLUTION

No. 75

Session of
2005

INTRODUCED BY STACK, APRIL 12, 2005

INTRODUCED AND ADOPTED, APRIL 12, 2005

A RESOLUTION

1 Recognizing the month of April 2005 as "Autism Awareness Month"
2 in Pennsylvania.

3 WHEREAS, Autism is a severely incapacitating, lifelong
4 developmental disability resulting in significant impairment of
5 an individual's ability to learn, develop healthy interactive
6 behaviors and understand verbal, nonverbal and reciprocal
7 communication; and

8 WHEREAS, Autism is the third most common developmental
9 disability, affecting more than one million individuals
10 nationwide and 25,000 individuals in this State; and

11 WHEREAS, Autism is the result of a neurological disorder
12 affecting the functioning of the brain, but few members of the
13 general public understand this complex syndrome; and

14 WHEREAS, Although a cure for autism has not been found,
15 persons with autism can be helped to reach their greatest
16 potential through accurate early diagnosis, appropriate
17 education and intervention; and

1 WHEREAS, Support groups such as the Greater Philadelphia
2 Chapter of the Autism Society of America, Cure Autism Now, the
3 National Alliance for Autism Research, Unlocking Autism and
4 other organizations have dedicated years of service in their
5 ongoing efforts to advocate for the rights, humane treatment and
6 appropriate education of all persons with autism; and

7 WHEREAS, These groups remain committed to their cause and to
8 educating families, professionals and the general public to
9 better understand this lifelong disability; and

10 WHEREAS, Autism is a complex disability requiring increased
11 research to one day find a cure and prevention and requiring
12 greater recognition and understanding to ensure that persons
13 with autism are accurately diagnosed and appropriately treated
14 throughout their lives; therefore be it

15 RESOLVED, That the Senate recognize the month of April 2005
16 as "Autism Awareness Month" in Pennsylvania and urge its
17 observance throughout this Commonwealth.