

THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF PENNSYLVANIA

# SENATE RESOLUTION

No. 295 Session of  
2010

INTRODUCED BY STACK, ORIE, BOSCOLA, KASUNIC, TARTAGLIONE,  
FONTANA, BAKER, STOUT, MUSTO, PIPPY, FERLO, ERICKSON, O'PAKE,  
LOGAN, WILLIAMS, PILEGGI, RAFFERTY, DINNIMAN, GREENLEAF,  
ALLOWAY, VOGEL, LEACH, WASHINGTON AND FARNESE, APRIL 13, 2010

INTRODUCED AND ADOPTED, APRIL 13, 2010

## A RESOLUTION

1 Recognizing the month of April 2010 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, According to the Centers for Disease Control and  
9 Prevention, about 1 in 110 American children has autism, which  
10 has been called an urgent public health concern that is more  
11 common than previously thought; and

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

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

1 education and intervention; and

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

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

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

16 RESOLVED, That the Senate recognize the month of April 2010  
17 as "Autism Awareness Month" in Pennsylvania and urge its  
18 observance throughout this Commonwealth.