

THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF PENNSYLVANIA

SENATE RESOLUTION

No. 61

Session of
2011

INTRODUCED BY SOLOBAY, ORIE, COSTA, KASUNIC, HUGHES, FONTANA,
BOSCOLA, PILEGGI, BROWNE, ERICKSON, ALLOWAY, BAKER, BLAKE,
BREWSTER, BRUBAKER, DINNIMAN, EARLL, FERLO, GREENLEAF,
MENSCH, PIPPY, RAFFERTY, STACK, D. WHITE AND FARNESE,
APRIL 5, 2011

INTRODUCED AND ADOPTED, APRIL 5, 2011

A RESOLUTION

1 Designating the month of April 2011 as "Lupus Alert Month" in
2 Pennsylvania.

3 WHEREAS, Lupus is a chronic, inflammatory autoimmune disease
4 which causes the immune system to attack the body's own tissue
5 and organs, including the kidneys, heart, lungs, brain, blood or
6 skin; and

7 WHEREAS, Lupus affects one out of every 185 Americans and
8 primarily strikes women between the ages of 15 and 45, but men
9 as well as children are also affected; and

10 WHEREAS, Lupus is more prevalent in African Americans,
11 Latinos, Native Americans and Asians; and

12 WHEREAS, Lupus is America's least known major disease but
13 strikes more people than sickle-cell anemia, multiple sclerosis,
14 leukemia, cerebral palsy and cystic fibrosis combined; and

15 WHEREAS, Thousands of Americans die each year from lupus-
16 related complications; and

1 WHEREAS, Lupus is often referred to as "the disease that
2 fools," due to the patient's unawareness of its presence for
3 extended periods of time; and

4 WHEREAS, Clinicians may confuse lupus with other disorders,
5 and persons with lupus may give the appearance of being healthy;
6 and

7 WHEREAS, The majority of Pennsylvanians do not understand
8 lupus, how widespread it is or its ramifications for the health
9 care industry; and

10 WHEREAS, With early diagnosis and current methods of therapy,
11 80% to 90% of persons with lupus can look forward to a normal
12 life span if they follow the instructions of their physician,
13 take medications as prescribed and know when to seek medical
14 assistance; and

15 WHEREAS, The Lupus Foundation of Pennsylvania, a nonprofit
16 volunteer health organization with a history of service since
17 1975, provides supportive services to the victims of lupus,
18 funds medical research into the disease's causes and possible
19 treatments and educates the public concerning the realities of
20 lupus; and

21 WHEREAS, The Lupus Foundation of America Inc., is calling for
22 all states to dedicate April 2011 toward fostering lupus
23 awareness; therefore be it

24 RESOLVED, That the Senate designate the month of April 2011
25 as "Lupus Alert Month" in Pennsylvania.