

THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF PENNSYLVANIA

SENATE RESOLUTION

No. 203 Session of
2011

INTRODUCED BY VOGEL, FARNESE, D. WHITE, PIPPY, MENSCH, BROWNE,
SCARNATI, BAKER, FONTANA, GREENLEAF, ERICKSON, ORIE, KASUNIC,
BLAKE, TARTAGLIONE, TOMLINSON, RAFFERTY, PILEGGI, EARLL,
FERLO, YAW, KITCHEN, COSTA, SCHWANK, SOLOBAY, BREWSTER,
BRUBAKER, WAUGH, ALLOWAY, WASHINGTON AND EICHELBERGER,
OCTOBER 17, 2011

INTRODUCED AND ADOPTED, OCTOBER 17, 2011

A RESOLUTION

1 Designating the month of November 2011 as "Pancreatic Cancer
2 Awareness Month" in Pennsylvania.

3 WHEREAS, More than 43,000 people will be diagnosed with
4 pancreatic cancer this year in the United States, and 36,000
5 will die from the disease; and

6 WHEREAS, Pancreatic cancer is the deadliest cancer and the
7 fourth-leading cause of cancer deaths in the United States; and

8 WHEREAS, Pennsylvania is the 5th highest ranking state in the
9 United States in pancreatic cancer diagnoses; and

10 WHEREAS, Seventy-five percent of pancreatic cancer patients
11 die within the first year of their diagnosis, and 94% of
12 pancreatic cancer patients die within the first five years; and

13 WHEREAS, There is no cure for pancreatic cancer and there
14 have been no significant improvements in early detection,
15 treatment methods or survival rates; and

16 WHEREAS, In the last 25 years, survival rates have only

1 increased from 3% to 6%; and

2 WHEREAS, When symptoms of pancreatic cancer present
3 themselves, it is usually too late for an optimistic prognosis,
4 and the average life expectancy of those diagnosed with
5 metastasis disease is only three to six months; and

6 WHEREAS, Incidents of pancreatic cancer are higher in men
7 than in women and higher in African Americans than in other
8 ethnic groups; and

9 WHEREAS, The Federal Government invests less money in
10 pancreatic cancer research than it does in any of the other
11 leading cancers; and

12 WHEREAS, The good health and well-being of the residents of
13 this Commonwealth are enhanced as a direct result of increased
14 awareness about pancreatic cancer and research into early
15 detection, causes and effective treatment; and

16 WHEREAS, The Pancreatic Cancer Action Network is the first
17 and only national patient advocacy organization that services
18 the pancreatic cancer community in Pennsylvania and nationwide
19 by focusing its efforts on public policy, research funding,
20 patient services and public awareness and education related to
21 developing effective treatments and a cure for pancreatic
22 cancer; and

23 WHEREAS, The Pancreatic Cancer Action Network and its
24 affiliates support those patients currently battling pancreatic
25 cancer, as well as the families of those who have lost their
26 lives to the disease and are committed to nothing less than a
27 cure; and

28 WHEREAS, The Pancreatic Cancer Action Network is dedicated to
29 increasing funding for pancreatic cancer research and to
30 advocating for the allocation of appropriate research funding

1 from the Federal Government to the National Cancer Institute to
2 discover and develop enhanced detection techniques and improved
3 treatment methods for pancreatic cancer; therefore be it

4 RESOLVED, That the Senate designate the month of November
5 2011 as "Pancreatic Cancer Awareness Month" in Pennsylvania in
6 support of the goals of educating the citizens of this
7 Commonwealth about the lethality of pancreatic cancer, how
8 quickly it claims the lives of those afflicted and the lack of
9 adequate funding towards lifesaving research and detection
10 methods.