

THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF PENNSYLVANIA

HOUSE RESOLUTION

No. 36 Session of 2015

INTRODUCED BY FABRIZIO, COHEN, THOMAS, LONGIETTI, SCHLOSSBERG, DUSH, SONNEY, KILLION, KOTIK, CALTAGIRONE, BOBACK, CUTLER, McNEILL, MATZIE, HEFFLEY, C. PARKER, O'BRIEN, CONKLIN, HAHN, SCHWEYER, KNOWLES, BIZZARRO, KINSEY, DEASY, HENNESSEY, GABLER, MILLARD, KORTZ, MURT, VEREB, BAKER, SCHREIBER, READSHAW, O'NEILL, DIGIROLAMO, PETRI, D. COSTA, MARSICO, GRELL, ROSS, BROWNLEE, EVERETT, PICKETT, MAJOR, GOODMAN, DONATUCCI, SNYDER, WHEELAND, ROZZI, KIRKLAND, McCARTER, PASHINSKI, PAYNE, DAVIS, MAHONEY, GINGRICH, V. BROWN, FREEMAN, GIBBONS, BARBIN AND GILLEN, JANUARY 23, 2015

INTRODUCED AS NONCONTROVERSIAL RESOLUTION UNDER RULE 35, JANUARY 23, 2015

A RESOLUTION

1 Designating the month of January 2015 as "National Blood Donor
2 Month" in Pennsylvania.

3 WHEREAS, January has been recognized as National Blood Donor
4 Month for over 40 years; and

5 WHEREAS, Blood donors are an integral part of the health
6 system and national public health preparedness initiatives in
7 the United States; and

8 WHEREAS, Donating blood is a safe, lifesaving and selfless
9 gift that enhances the level of preparedness for each and every
10 community in this nation; and

11 WHEREAS, Donating one unit of blood saves as many as three
12 lives; and

13 WHEREAS, Blood and blood products are critical national

1 resources and vital public health assets that must be readily
2 available at all times; and

3 WHEREAS, According to the Department of Health, every two
4 seconds a person in the United States needs blood for lifesaving
5 treatment in an emergency or a disaster, a routine surgery or a
6 blood transfusion to help treat a serious disease like cancer or
7 an organ or bone marrow transplant; and

8 WHEREAS, A total of 30 million blood components are used in
9 transfusions every year in the United States; and

10 WHEREAS, One in seven patients who enter a hospital in the
11 United States needs blood; and

12 WHEREAS, For this reason, according to the American Red
13 Cross, more than 44,000 blood donations are needed every day;
14 and

15 WHEREAS, According to the Department of Health, approximately
16 60% of the United States population is eligible to give blood,
17 but only 5% of the eligible population donates blood on an
18 annual basis; and

19 WHEREAS, It is vital that the blood donation policies,
20 including donor deferral policies, in the United States keep
21 pace with medical science to ensure that our communities and our
22 country as a whole have a robust, eligible population of donors
23 to maintain a safe and adequate blood supply; and

24 WHEREAS, America's Blood Centers, the American Association of
25 Blood Banks and the American Red Cross support and perform
26 critical services collecting, processing and distributing
27 lifesaving blood and blood products to hospitals and health
28 providers and are instrumental in ensuring the safety of the
29 blood supply and promoting the need for blood donations;
30 therefore be it

1 RESOLVED, That the House of Representatives designate the
2 month of January 2015 as "National Blood Donor Month" in
3 Pennsylvania and encourage the residents of this Commonwealth to
4 contribute to the blood supply by donating and organizing or
5 volunteering at a blood drive or by suggesting blood donation to
6 their families and friends.