

THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF PENNSYLVANIA

# HOUSE RESOLUTION

No. 258 Session of 2015

INTRODUCED BY FREEMAN, CUTLER, THOMAS, ADOLPH, BAKER, SCHWEYER, McNEILL, DAVIS, MACKENZIE, BISHOP, V. BROWN, DiGIROLAMO, KIRKLAND, DUSH, SONNEY, CONKLIN, DAY, KINSEY, CALTAGIRONE, MATZIE, FRANKEL, COHEN, SAINATO, MILLARD, LONGIETTI, BROWNLEE, KIM, EVERETT, HENNESSEY, OBERLANDER, PICKETT, SCHLOSSBERG, WHEELAND, D. COSTA, FARINA, GRELL, MARSICO, MURT, GABLER, O'NEILL, DEASY, READSHAW, ROSS, MAJOR, GOODMAN, DONATUCCI, McCARTER, BENNINGHOFF, KORTZ, MAHONEY, GILLEN, SIMMONS, PETRI, DeLUCA, GINGRICH AND WATSON, APRIL 16, 2015

INTRODUCED AS NONCONTROVERSIAL RESOLUTION UNDER RULE 35, APRIL 16, 2015

## A RESOLUTION

1 Recognizing the month of May 2015 as "Bladder Cancer Awareness  
2 Month" in Pennsylvania.

3 WHEREAS, In 2015, it is estimated that 4,080 people will be  
4 diagnosed with bladder cancer and approximately 850 people will  
5 die from the disease in Pennsylvania; and

6 WHEREAS, More than 500,000 individuals throughout the United  
7 States live with bladder cancer; and

8 WHEREAS, Bladder cancer affects people of all ages and  
9 backgrounds and is among the top 10 cancers with the highest  
10 incidence rates in the United States, with Pennsylvania ranked  
11 fourth in new cases of bladder cancer diagnosed as of 2015; and

12 WHEREAS, Bladder cancer is known as one of the most expensive  
13 cancers to treat on a per-patient basis with a recurrence rate  
14 of approximately 50% to 80% and requires lifelong surveillance;

1 and

2 WHEREAS, Bladder cancer symptoms, such as blood in urine, are  
3 easily recognized, however, many people are unaware of the  
4 threat of bladder cancer, which often delays diagnosis and  
5 treatment; and

6 WHEREAS, If diagnosed early, bladder cancer is treatable; and

7 WHEREAS, If diagnosis and treatment are delayed, the life  
8 expectancy of an individual with bladder cancer decreases; and

9 WHEREAS, Military veterans are more likely than nonveterans  
10 to be diagnosed with bladder cancer; and

11 WHEREAS, Women are often diagnosed at a later stage in the  
12 development of bladder cancer and when diagnosed at the same  
13 stage as men, women have a worse prognosis; and

14 WHEREAS, The quality of life of a person with bladder cancer  
15 depends on future treatment and diagnostic developments, which  
16 will rely on research advancements; and

17 WHEREAS, There have been no new treatments developed for  
18 bladder cancer in more than 20 years; and

19 WHEREAS, A lack of awareness about bladder cancer within the  
20 medical community and general public has limited research  
21 advancements for the disease; and

22 WHEREAS, Increased awareness will promote early diagnosis and  
23 increase chances of survival; and

24 WHEREAS, Increased awareness will bolster public support for  
25 treating the disease and will lead to increased funding for  
26 innovative research and the development of new treatment options  
27 and diagnostic tools; and

28 WHEREAS, Traditionally on the first Saturday in May,  
29 survivors, caregivers and loved ones walk together throughout  
30 the United States to raise awareness of bladder cancer; and

1       WHEREAS, The Bladder Cancer Advocacy Network and its  
2 community of patients, caregivers and specialists seek to foster  
3 a community of hope and support, fund and conduct research for  
4 innovative treatments and diagnostic tools and increase public  
5 awareness and understanding of bladder cancer; therefore be it

6       RESOLVED, That the House of Representatives recognize the  
7 month of May 2015 as "Bladder Cancer Awareness Month" in  
8 Pennsylvania; and be it further

9       RESOLVED, That the House of Representatives support the goals  
10 and ideals of "Bladder Cancer Awareness Month"; and be it  
11 further

12       RESOLVED, That the House of Representatives call on the  
13 people of this Commonwealth to promote awareness of bladder  
14 cancer, foster an understanding of the impact of the disease,  
15 take an active role in the fight to end bladder cancer and  
16 observe "Bladder Cancer Awareness Month" with appropriate  
17 ceremonies and activities.