
THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF PENNSYLVANIA

HOUSE RESOLUTION

No. 294 Session of
2015

INTRODUCED BY GRELL, READSHAW, DUNBAR, CUTLER, DONATUCCI, COHEN,
BENNINGHOFF, BAKER, KOTIK, SAINATO, BIZZARRO, DIGIROLAMO,
SCHLOSSBERG, KIM, V. BROWN, ROSS, MILLARD, THOMAS, KIRKLAND,
MACKENZIE, DUSH, SONNEY, ROZZI, KILLION, KNOWLES, LONGIETTI,
CALTAGIRONE, BROWNLEE, McCARTER, TOPPER, A. HARRIS, D. COSTA,
FARINA, MAJOR, KINSEY, SCHWEYER, O'NEILL, GIBBONS, DeLUCA,
MAHONEY, WHEELAND, GOODMAN, MURT, YOUNGBLOOD, MARSICO,
WATSON, MATZIE AND PAYNE, APRIL 27, 2015

INTRODUCED AS NONCONTROVERSIAL RESOLUTION UNDER RULE 35,
APRIL 27, 2015

A RESOLUTION

1 Designating the month of May 2015 as "Cystic Fibrosis Awareness
2 Month" in Pennsylvania.

3 WHEREAS, Cystic fibrosis (CF) is a genetic disease affecting
4 approximately 30,000 children and adults in the United States
5 and nearly 70,000 children and adults worldwide, 1,659 of whom
6 live in this Commonwealth; and

7 WHEREAS, A defective gene causes the body to produce an
8 abnormally thick, sticky mucus that clogs the lungs, and these
9 secretions produce life-threatening lung infections and obstruct
10 the pancreas, preventing digestive enzymes from reaching the
11 intestines to help break down and absorb food; and

12 WHEREAS, More than 10 million Americans are symptomless
13 carriers of the defective CF gene, and CF occurs in
14 approximately one of every 3,500 live births in the United

1 States; and

2 WHEREAS, The median age of survival for a person with CF is
3 41.1 years; and

4 WHEREAS, With advances in the treatment of CF, the number of
5 adults with CF has steadily grown, and approximately 1,000 new
6 cases of CF are diagnosed each year; and

7 WHEREAS, Nearly 50% of the CF population is 18 years of age
8 and older, and people with CF have a variety of symptoms
9 attributed to the more than 1,800 mutations of the CF gene; and

10 WHEREAS, Infant blood screening to detect genetic defects is
11 the most reliable and least costly method to identify persons
12 likely to have CF; and

13 WHEREAS, Early diagnosis of CF permits early treatment and
14 enhances quality of life and longevity and the treatment of CF
15 depends on the stage of the disease and the organs involved; and

16 WHEREAS, Clearing mucus from the lungs is an important part
17 of the daily CF treatment regimen, and other types of treatments
18 include inhaled antibiotics and pancreatic enzymes, among
19 others; and

20 WHEREAS, There are 11 world-class treatment centers in this
21 Commonwealth which specialize in the diagnosis of CF and the
22 care of persons with CF; and

23 WHEREAS, Improving the length and quality of life for people
24 with CF starts with awareness; therefore be it

25 RESOLVED, That the House of Representatives designate the
26 month of May 2015 as "Cystic Fibrosis Awareness Month" in
27 Pennsylvania.