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THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF PENNSYLVANIA

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# HOUSE RESOLUTION

No. 777 Session of  
2015

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INTRODUCED BY FREEMAN, KILLION, SCHLOSSBERG, DONATUCCI, HARHART,  
CONKLIN, KIM, LONGIETTI, ADOLPH, WARD, PICKETT, D. COSTA,  
CALTAGIRONE, BOBACK, TOOHL, BIZZARRO, DUSH, SONNEY, MILLARD,  
KIRKLAND, HENNESSEY, WATSON, BAKER, THOMAS, DIGIROLAMO,  
VEREB, ROZZI, CAUSER, KOTIK, MATZIE, READSHAW, BURNS,  
V. BROWN, O'BRIEN, EVERETT, MURT, R. BROWN, SAINATO,  
BENNINGHOFF, NEILSON, ROSS, YOUNGBLOOD, WHEELAND, GIBBONS,  
PASHINSKI, PAYNE, COHEN, MILNE, GOODMAN, GILLEN, KINSEY,  
MOUL, MAJOR, PHILLIPS-HILL, MARSICO, BRADFORD, DeLUCA,  
MAHONEY AND GINGRICH, APRIL 4, 2016

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INTRODUCED AS NONCONTROVERSIAL RESOLUTION UNDER RULE 35,  
APRIL 4, 2016

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## A RESOLUTION

1 Recognizing the month of May 2016 as "Bladder Cancer Awareness  
2 Month" in Pennsylvania.

3 WHEREAS, In 2016, it is estimated that 4,260 people will be  
4 diagnosed with bladder cancer and approximately 850 people will  
5 die from the disease in this Commonwealth; 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 2016; 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

1 of approximately 50% to 80% and requires lifelong surveillance;  
2 and

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

23 WHEREAS, Increased awareness promotes early diagnosis and  
24 increase chances of survival; and

25 WHEREAS, Increased awareness bolsters public support for  
26 treating the disease and leads to increased funding for  
27 innovative research and the development of new treatment options  
28 and diagnostic tools; and

29 WHEREAS, Traditionally on the first Saturday in May,  
30 survivors, caregivers and loved ones walk together throughout

1 the United States to raise awareness of bladder cancer; and

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

7 RESOLVED, That the House of Representatives recognize the  
8 month of May 2016 as "Bladder Cancer Awareness Month" in  
9 Pennsylvania; and be it further

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

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