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THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF PENNSYLVANIA

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SENATE RESOLUTION

No. 139 Session of  
2015

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INTRODUCED BY VANCE, AUMENT, BAKER, COSTA, DINNIMAN, HAYWOOD,  
SCHWANK, ALLOWAY, EICHELBERGER, GREENLEAF, PILEGGI, RAFFERTY,  
VULAKOVICH, BREWSTER, FONTANA, SMITH AND TARTAGLIONE,  
JUNE 1, 2015

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INTRODUCED AND ADOPTED, JUNE 1, 2015

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A RESOLUTION

1 Designating the month of September 2015 as "Pulmonary Fibrosis  
2 Awareness Month" in Pennsylvania.

3 WHEREAS, Pulmonary fibrosis is a lung disorder characterized  
4 by a progressive scarring known as fibrosis and deterioration of  
5 the lungs which slowly robs its patients of their ability to  
6 breathe; and

7 WHEREAS, Pulmonary fibrosis, which affects at least 200,000  
8 Americans with an estimated 48,000 new cases diagnosed each  
9 year, has no Food and Drug Administration treatment or cure; and

10 WHEREAS, Pulmonary fibrosis affects children and adults and  
11 studies have revealed there is a genetic component to this  
12 disease in 15% of the cases; and

13 WHEREAS, Pulmonary fibrosis is difficult to diagnose and an  
14 estimated two-thirds of patients die within five years of  
15 diagnosis; and

16 WHEREAS, A patient's only means of survival is a lung  
17 transplant; and

1       WHEREAS, Pennsylvania was the first and only state to develop  
2 an initiative to proactively find and help patients afflicted by  
3 this disease; and

4       WHEREAS, Five hospitals, Penn State Hershey Medical Center,  
5 Temple University Hospital, the Hospital of the University of  
6 Pennsylvania, University of Pittsburgh Medical Center and  
7 Geisinger Medical Center, work together for the benefit of  
8 patients; and

9       WHEREAS, In the month of September, the Coalition for  
10 Pulmonary Fibrosis, a section 501(c)(3) nonprofit organization  
11 founded in 2001, seeks to educate and advocate for patients and  
12 their families and build national awareness and fundraising in  
13 the race to find treatments and a cure for pulmonary fibrosis;  
14 and

15       WHEREAS, Every mention of the disease is a step closer to  
16 someone getting a timely and accurate diagnosis, receiving  
17 essential support and ultimately finding a cure; therefore be it

18       RESOLVED, That the Senate designate the month of September  
19 2015 as "Pulmonary Fibrosis Awareness Month" in Pennsylvania.