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THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF PENNSYLVANIA

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HOUSE RESOLUTION

No. 1096 Session of  
2018

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INTRODUCED BY F. KELLER, BENNINGHOFF, BIZZARRO, BOBACK, BURNS,  
CALTAGIRONE, SCHLEGEL CULVER, DIGIROLAMO, DRISCOLL, DUSH,  
FARRY, HENNESSEY, HILL-EVANS, JAMES, LONGIETTI, MILLARD,  
NEILSON, PICKETT, READSHAW, RYAN, SONNEY, THOMAS, WARREN,  
WATSON AND YOUNGBLOOD, SEPTEMBER 25, 2018

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INTRODUCED AS NONCONTROVERSIAL RESOLUTION UNDER RULE 35,  
SEPTEMBER 25, 2018

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A RESOLUTION

1 Designating the week of October 15 through 19, 2018, as "CARES  
2 Recognition Week" in Pennsylvania.

3 WHEREAS, Out-of-hospital cardiac arrest (OHCA) is a leading  
4 cause of death in the United States; and

5 WHEREAS, A network of 9-1-1 dispatchers who notify  
6 appropriate emergency medical services units contributes to OHCA  
7 survival; and

8 WHEREAS, Delivery of effective cardiopulmonary resuscitation  
9 or defibrillation further contributes to OHCA survival; and

10 WHEREAS, Access to immediate definitive care further  
11 contributes to OHCA survival; and

12 WHEREAS, In 2004, the Centers for Disease Control and  
13 Prevention partnered with Emory University School of Medicine's  
14 Department of Emergency Medicine to produce a national registry  
15 of OHCA emergency treatment and outcome data; and

16 WHEREAS, This partnership developed in response to an

1 American Heart Association call for a central repository to  
2 monitor and evaluate the OHCA continuum of care; and

3 WHEREAS, A data system known as the Cardiac Arrest Registry  
4 to Enhance Survival (CARES) was established to examine key  
5 performance measures such as response times, specific elements  
6 of care and patient outcomes; and

7 WHEREAS, Data sources include 9-1-1 call centers, emergency  
8 medical services units and receiving hospitals; and

9 WHEREAS, The 9-1-1 call centers record an incident address,  
10 time of a call and time of dispatch; and

11 WHEREAS, Emergency responders enter data when their efforts  
12 are presumptively due to cardiac disease; and

13 WHEREAS, A receiving hospital enters a definitive patient  
14 care report, including a cerebral performance category score;  
15 and

16 WHEREAS, A secure reporting process conforms to Health  
17 Insurance Portability and Accountability Act requirements; and

18 WHEREAS, Data collection and aggregation methods preclude  
19 personal identifying information in order to protect  
20 confidentiality and anonymity; and

21 WHEREAS, CARES quality assurance secures data accuracy and  
22 integrity; and

23 WHEREAS, All authorized users participate in standardized  
24 training; and

25 WHEREAS, A 2005 pilot program in Atlanta, Georgia, resulted  
26 in dramatically improved survival rates within the first two  
27 years; and

28 WHEREAS, An expanded program, serving nearly 106 million  
29 patients through the efforts of 1,400 emergency medical services  
30 agencies and 1,800 hospitals, includes 24 statewide registries

1 and community sites in 18 states; and

2 WHEREAS, CARES reporting identified 76,215 nontraumatic OHCA  
3 events in 2017; and

4 WHEREAS, This reporting reflects the percentage of patients  
5 for whom a bystander performed cardiopulmonary resuscitation,  
6 38.2%, and patients for whom a bystander applied an automated  
7 external defibrillator, 11.4%; and

8 WHEREAS, This reporting further reflects a 7.3-minute median  
9 response time, 28.1% survival rate to hospital admission and  
10 10.4% survival rate to hospital discharge; and

11 WHEREAS, Among surviving individuals, 80.4% had a positive  
12 neurological outcome; and

13 WHEREAS, The Commonwealth's Statewide registry is essential  
14 to the development and evaluation of OHCA protocols; and

15 WHEREAS, The Commonwealth has a stake in identifying parts of  
16 the CARES system that work and parts that could work better; and

17 WHEREAS, The Commonwealth has a stake in promoting  
18 interoperability among the 122 participating emergency medical  
19 services units; and

20 WHEREAS, The House of Representatives affirms that the CARES  
21 data entry and reporting processes optimize OHCA treatment and  
22 survival; and

23 WHEREAS, The House of Representatives commends participants  
24 in this Commonwealth whose data and reporting strengthen the  
25 continuum of care for a widespread public health problem; and

26 WHEREAS, The House of Representatives notes our  
27 responsibility to highlight a system that standardizes and  
28 maintains data to increase OHCA survival rates; therefore be it

29 RESOLVED, That the House of Representatives designate the  
30 week of October 15 through 19, 2018, as "CARES Recognition Week"

1 in Pennsylvania; and be it further

2       RESOLVED, That a copy of this resolution be transmitted to  
3 Kimbra Snoop, CARES coordinator for the Commonwealth of  
4 Pennsylvania, 523 Dell Street, Bellefonte PA 16823.