
THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF PENNSYLVANIA

SENATE RESOLUTION

No. 12 Session of
2017

INTRODUCED BY SCHWANK, BREWSTER, SABATINA, BAKER, GREENLEAF,
MARTIN, FONTANA, WARD, DINNIMAN AND BARTOLOTTA,
JANUARY 23, 2017

INTRODUCED AND ADOPTED, JANUARY 23, 2017

A RESOLUTION

1 Recognizing the month of January 2017 as "Cervical Cancer
2 Awareness Month" in Pennsylvania.

3 WHEREAS, There is a nationwide effort to raise public
4 awareness of cervical cancer during the month of January; and

5 WHEREAS, More than 4,000 women die each year from cervical
6 cancer and more than 12,000 women are diagnosed with the
7 disease; and

8 WHEREAS, Cervical cancer develops very slowly, with half of
9 patients diagnosed between 35 and 55 years of age and 1 in 5
10 diagnosed after 65 years of age; and

11 WHEREAS, Screening tests and vaccines can essentially
12 eliminate the disease; and

13 WHEREAS, Periodic Pap tests are recommended to detect
14 precancerous and cancerous cervical cells in women 21 years of
15 age or older; and

16 WHEREAS, Regular cervical cancer screening can usually be
17 performed simply during a regular physical examination with a

1 Pap test, one of the most reliable and effective cancer
2 screening tests available; and

3 WHEREAS, The majority of women diagnosed with cervical cancer
4 have not had regular Pap tests or have not followed up on
5 abnormal Pap test results; and

6 WHEREAS, An estimated 20 million American men and women carry
7 the human papillomavirus (HPV), the most common sexually
8 transmitted virus that leads to cervical cancer; and

9 WHEREAS, A series of three HPV vaccinations is recommended
10 for all males and females between 9 and 26 years of age, to
11 provide long-term protection against the most common strains of
12 HPV that cause cervical cancer; and

13 WHEREAS, Cervical cancer is strongly associated with poverty
14 and lack of access to medical care; and

15 WHEREAS, Other risk factors associated with cervical cancer
16 are smoking, long-term use of birth control pills and having
17 three or more children; and

18 WHEREAS, Today, medical advances have made cervical cancer,
19 once the second leading cause of death for women, a preventable
20 disease with a very high cure rate when detected early;
21 therefore be it

22 RESOLVED, That the Senate recognize the month of January 2017
23 as "Cervical Cancer Awareness Month" in Pennsylvania.