PRINTER'S NO. 1689

THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF PENNSYLVANIA

SENATE RESOLUTION

No. 331 Session of 2018

INTRODUCED BY SCHWANK, SABATINA, DINNIMAN, GREENLEAF, FONTANA, MARTIN, FARNESE, BARTOLOTTA, HUGHES, BROWNE, BREWSTER, FOLMER, KILLION, RAFFERTY, VULAKOVICH, YUDICHAK, BLAKE, BAKER, MENSCH, HUTCHINSON AND COSTA, APRIL 23, 2018

INTRODUCED AND ADOPTED, APRIL 23, 2018

A RESOLUTION

Designating the month of May 2018 as "Cystic Fibrosis Awareness Month" in Pennsylvania.

WHEREAS, Cystic fibrosis (CF) is a genetic disease that affects approximately 70,000 children and adults worldwide and approximately 30,000 children and adults in the United States, 1,488 of whom live in this Commonwealth; and

WHEREAS, With CF, a defective gene causes the body to produce an abnormally thick, sticky mucus that clogs the lungs and leads to life-threatening lung infections and obstructions to the pancreas that prevent digestive enzymes from reaching the intestines to help break down and absorb food; and

WHEREAS, More than 10 million Americans are symptomless carriers of the defective CF gene; and

WHEREAS, CF occurs in approximately 1 out of every 3,500 live births in the United States; and

WHEREAS, With advancements in the treatment of CF, the median age of survival for an individual with CF is approximately 40

years; and

WHEREAS, Approximately 50% of the population with CF is at least 18 years of age, and individuals with CF have a variety of symptoms attributed to the more than 1,800 mutations of the CF gene; and

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

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

WHEREAS, Clearing mucus from the lungs is an important part of the daily CF treatment regimen and other types of treatments include, but are not limited to, inhaled antibiotics and pancreatic enzymes; and

WHEREAS, There are 12 world-class treatment centers in this Commonwealth that specialize in the diagnosis and care of individuals with CF; and

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

RESOLVED, That the Senate designate the month of May 2018 as "Cystic Fibrosis Awareness Month" in Pennsylvania.