
THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF PENNSYLVANIA

HOUSE RESOLUTION

No. 999 Session of
2020

INTRODUCED BY NEILSON, MIHALEK, MURT, KORTZ, HOHENSTEIN,
HICKERNELL, BURNS, BURGOS, BOBACK, HARKINS, GALLOWAY, RYAN,
SCHLEGEL CULVER, READSHAW, FLYNN, BIZZARRO, FREEMAN, KINSEY,
LONGIETTI, PICKETT, McNEILL, HAHN, MADDEN, BROWN, ZABEL,
HOWARD, THOMAS, SONNEY, SCHLOSSBERG, MILLARD, DEASY,
DRISCOLL, T. DAVIS, HILL-EVANS, HEFFLEY, CIRESI AND SCHMITT,
SEPTEMBER 14, 2020

INTRODUCED AS NONCONTROVERSIAL RESOLUTION UNDER RULE 35,
SEPTEMBER 14, 2020

A RESOLUTION

1 Designating the month of October 2020 as "Dyslexia Awareness
2 Month" in Pennsylvania.

3 WHEREAS, Developmental reading disorder, or dyslexia, is a
4 language-based learning disability that occurs when there is a
5 problem in areas of the brain that help interpret language; and

6 WHEREAS, Dyslexia's symptoms include slow or inaccurate
7 reading, poor spelling, poor writing or mixing up similar words;
8 and

9 WHEREAS, Problems experienced by people with dyslexia may
10 include:

11 (1) confusing letters or having difficulty learning the
12 sounds that go with letters;

13 (2) having trouble learning how to speak, recognizing
14 words or determining the meaning of a simple sentence; and

15 (3) having trouble processing the sounds of language,

1 such as rhyming;

2 and

3 WHEREAS, Dyslexia can include disorganization of written and
4 spoken language or struggles in comprehending and concentrating
5 on longer reading assignments; and

6 WHEREAS, Dyslexia may also include difficulty in correctly
7 performing math operations, memorizing number facts or learning
8 a foreign language; and

9 WHEREAS, Dyslexia is a specific information processing
10 problem that does not interfere with one's ability to think or
11 understand complex ideas; and

12 WHEREAS, Dyslexia is not caused by a lack of desire to learn
13 and affects people of all backgrounds and intellectual levels,
14 with the majority of individuals being of normal intelligence
15 and many being above average in intelligence; and

16 WHEREAS, Students with dyslexia are likely to struggle with
17 many aspects of academic learning, are at a higher risk of
18 dropping out of school entirely and often go for years without
19 being properly diagnosed; and

20 WHEREAS, Aside from problems in school, an individual with
21 dyslexia can experience a loss of self-esteem and general
22 reading problems that may persist into adulthood, which can
23 affect the individual's job performance; and

24 WHEREAS, According to the International Dyslexia Association,
25 approximately 85% of students classified as having a primary
26 learning disability have difficulty in reading and language
27 processing; and

28 WHEREAS, The number of people having some symptoms of
29 dyslexia is much higher, perhaps as much as 15% to 20% of the
30 entire United States population; and

1 WHEREAS, There is much hope for students who are correctly
2 diagnosed with this disorder, as they can successfully learn
3 with appropriate teaching methods; and

4 WHEREAS, The earlier that dyslexia is diagnosed, the better
5 for the student; and

6 WHEREAS, Dyslexia is a disorder that often manifests among
7 members of the same family; and

8 WHEREAS, While dyslexia affects individuals throughout their
9 lives, its impact can change at different stages of life; and

10 WHEREAS, Dyslexia is an often misunderstood language-based
11 disability, and a large percentage of residents of this
12 Commonwealth experience one or more symptoms of this disorder;
13 therefore be it

14 RESOLVED, That the House of Representatives designate the
15 month of October 2020 as "Dyslexia Awareness Month" in
16 Pennsylvania.