

---

THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF PENNSYLVANIA

---

SENATE RESOLUTION

No. 199 Session of  
2019

---

INTRODUCED BY TARTAGLIONE, SCHWANK, PHILLIPS-HILL, BREWSTER,  
FONTANA, IOVINO, FARNESE, DINNIMAN, MARTIN, LEACH, BROWNE,  
HUGHES, J. WARD, BARTOLOTTA, MASTRIANO, MENSCH, BLAKE,  
YUDICHAK, HUTCHINSON, AUMENT AND BAKER, SEPTEMBER 23, 2019

---

INTRODUCED AND ADOPTED, SEPTEMBER 23, 2019

---

A RESOLUTION

1 Recognizing the month of September 2019 as "National Spinal Cord  
2 Injury Awareness Month" in Pennsylvania.

3 WHEREAS, Seventeen thousand spinal cord injuries occur in the  
4 United States each year; and

5 WHEREAS, Approximately 300,000 Americans, including 40,000  
6 veterans, have spinal cord injuries; and

7 WHEREAS, Spinal cord injuries often result in paralysis of  
8 either the lower body, paraplegia, or the upper and lower body,  
9 quadriplegia, and often can cause respiratory illness, sleep  
10 apnea, a form of high blood pressure known as autonomic  
11 dysreflexia, inability to regulate body temperature, chronic  
12 pain and impaired use of bladder, bowel and reproductive organs;  
13 and

14 WHEREAS, Spinal cord injury may increase an individual's risk  
15 for osteoporosis, obesity, high cholesterol and diabetes, making  
16 physical activity especially important to the physical and  
17 emotional well-being of individuals with spinal cord injuries;

1 and

2 WHEREAS, Every 48 minutes another individual in the United  
3 States becomes paralyzed from a spinal cord injury; and

4 WHEREAS, The Senate affirms the necessity of addressing  
5 spinal cord injuries and the particular challenges of spinal  
6 cord injury care and recovery for individuals with new or  
7 existing injuries and for their loved ones and caregivers; and

8 WHEREAS, The Senate further notes the significance of  
9 ensuring access to related resources and benefits, advancing  
10 medical research and disseminating public education and  
11 outreach; and

12 WHEREAS, "National Spinal Cord Injury Awareness Month" offers  
13 an opportunity for individuals to learn about spinal cord  
14 injuries, recognize the daily challenges encountered by injured  
15 individuals and acknowledge the achievements of Americans living  
16 with spinal cord injury; and

17 WHEREAS, The United States Department of Veterans Affairs, a  
18 leading advocate for "National Spinal Cord Injury Awareness  
19 Month," offers inpatient, outpatient, home care and respite care  
20 services as well as specialty health care programs for  
21 individuals living with a spinal cord injury and facilitates the  
22 progress of related research through its network of specialized  
23 care centers and primary care teams; and

24 WHEREAS, The Buoniconti Fund, in furtherance of its work  
25 addressing spinal cord injury awareness and its national and  
26 international objectives related to curing paralysis, is urging  
27 all individuals in our communities to support its largest  
28 campaign; therefore be it

29 RESOLVED, That the Senate recognize the month of September  
30 2019 as "National Spinal Cord Injury Awareness Month" in

1 Pennsylvania.