

THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF PENNSYLVANIA

SENATE RESOLUTION

No. 201 Session of 2019

INTRODUCED BY MARTIN, LANGERHOLC, ARGALL, PHILLIPS-HILL,
J. WARD, VOGEL, BARTOLOTTA, FONTANA, REGAN, AUMENT, FARNESE,
COLLETT, BREWSTER, KILLION, BROOKS, MASTRIANO, DINNIMAN,
BLAKE, SCHWANK, MENSCH, STREET, K. WARD, BROWNE, TARTAGLIONE,
COSTA, HUGHES AND YUDICHAK, SEPTEMBER 23, 2019

INTRODUCED AND ADOPTED, SEPTEMBER 23, 2019

A RESOLUTION

1 Designating the month of September 2019 as "Childhood Cancer
2 Awareness Month" in Pennsylvania, encouraging young
3 Pennsylvanians who are fighting cancer, honoring young people
4 who have lost their lives to childhood cancer, expressing
5 gratitude to the doctors and nurses who provide special care
6 to patients and families affected by childhood cancer and
7 encouraging all residents in this Commonwealth to join the
8 fight against childhood cancer.

9 WHEREAS, Since 1975, childhood cancer rates have risen by
10 0.7%; and

11 WHEREAS, Childhood cancer is the second leading cause of
12 death in children under 15 years of age, exceeded only by
13 accidents, and approximately 1,190 children are expected to die
14 from cancer in 2019; and

15 WHEREAS, The American Cancer Society estimates that
16 approximately 11,060 children in the United States under 15
17 years of age will be diagnosed with cancer in 2019; and

18 WHEREAS, The potential years of life lost to childhood cancer
19 and the potential years of life saved by treatment exceed all

1 other cancers with the exception of breast cancer; and

2 WHEREAS, Most children cannot be treated at a local hospital
3 and families must face the disruption of relocating to receive
4 treatment at a regional cancer center; and

5 WHEREAS, As a result of major treatment advances in recent
6 decades, more than 80% of children with cancer now survive five
7 years or more; and

8 WHEREAS, This is a significant increase since the mid-1970s,
9 when the five-year survival rate was less than 60%; and

10 WHEREAS, Survival rates vary depending on the type of cancer
11 and other factors; and

12 WHEREAS, There is still significant progress that must be
13 made with regard to childhood cancer treatment because there are
14 many types of childhood cancer and some types with lower
15 survival rates are very difficult to treat; and

16 WHEREAS, Pennsylvania is a leader in the fight against and
17 treatment of childhood cancer with six Children's Oncology Group
18 hospitals: St. Christopher's Hospital for Children, Children's
19 Hospital of Philadelphia, Geisinger Medical Center, Lehigh
20 Valley Hospital-Cedar Crest, Penn State Health Children's
21 Hospital and UPMC Children's Hospital of Pittsburgh; and

22 WHEREAS, Two of only sixteen institutions in the Pediatric
23 Brain Tumor Consortium are in Pennsylvania: Children's Hospital
24 of Philadelphia and UPMC Children's Hospital of Pittsburgh; and

25 WHEREAS, Penn State Health Children's Hospital is one of only
26 ten institutions nationwide in the Pediatric Oncology
27 Experimental Therapeutic Investigators' Consortium; therefore be
28 it

29 RESOLVED, That the Senate designate the month of September
30 2019 as "Childhood Cancer Awareness Month" in Pennsylvania; and

1 be it further

2 RESOLVED, That the Senate encourage young Pennsylvanians who
3 are fighting cancer, honor young people who have lost their
4 lives to childhood cancer, express gratitude to the doctors and
5 nurses who provide special care to patients and families
6 affected by childhood cancer and encourage all residents in this
7 Commonwealth to join the fight against childhood cancer.