A RESOLUTION

1 Designating the month of September 2019 as "Sepsis Awareness Month" in Pennsylvania.

3 WHEREAS, Sepsis is the body's overwhelming response to infection that can lead to tissue damage, organ failure and death; and

6 WHEREAS, More than 1.7 million people are diagnosed with sepsis in the United States each year; and

8 WHEREAS, Sepsis is one of the leading causes of death in the United States and takes more lives than opioid overdoses, breast cancer and prostate cancer combined; and

11 WHEREAS, Sepsis claims more than 270,000 lives annually; and

12 WHEREAS, Approximately 40% of patients diagnosed with severe sepsis do not survive; and

14 WHEREAS, Approximately 50% of survivors of sepsis suffer from post-sepsis syndrome; and

16 WHEREAS, Sepsis significantly impacts at-risk populations,
elderly patients, young children and individuals who are
immunosuppressed; and

WHEREAS, Health care professionals and advocates consider
this disease to be an epidemic, with one individual diagnosed
with sepsis every 20 seconds; and

WHEREAS, Sepsis hospitalizations in the United States cost
more than $27 billion each year; and

WHEREAS, Health care professionals are combating sepsis
through early detection, best practices, new initiatives,
comprehensive education and defined data and analytics; and

WHEREAS, Early detection and prompt treatment offer the best
chances for reducing deaths and improving recovery for
individuals diagnosed with sepsis until a cure is found; and

WHEREAS, This Commonwealth is proud to support health care
professionals, families and all individuals combating sepsis;
and

WHEREAS, In 2011, the Sepsis Alliance officially designated
September as "Sepsis Awareness Month," shining a spotlight on
sepsis by spreading the word around the globe; and

WHEREAS, In 2016, the Department of Health, with support from
the Hospital and Healthsystem Association of Pennsylvania (HAP),
held the first sepsis conference; and

WHEREAS, In 2017 and 2018, HAP brought together more than 200
health care leaders from across this Commonwealth, as well as a
number of sepsis experts for successful conferences each year;
and

WHEREAS, Continuing that success, HAP is again taking the
lead to plan this year's conference for September 23, 2019,
entitled "Solving the Puzzle of Sepsis—Putting the Pieces
Together in Pennsylvania"; and
WHEREAS, Sepsis is treatable, especially with early recognition and care, and individuals can help by learning about the signs and symptoms of sepsis; therefore be it RESOLVED, That the Senate designate the month of September 2019 as "Sepsis Awareness Month" in Pennsylvania.