
THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF PENNSYLVANIA

HOUSE RESOLUTION

No. 479 Session of
2024

INTRODUCED BY HOGAN, MARCELL, ROWE, BENNINGHOFF, MOUL, HILL-
EVANS, MERSKI, KINSEY, NEILSON, CONKLIN, KAZEEM, DALEY,
GILLEN, HEFFLEY, WARREN AND TOMLINSON, JUNE 20, 2024

REFERRED TO COMMITTEE ON HEALTH, JUNE 20, 2024

A RESOLUTION

1 Recognizing the month of November 2024 as "National Epilepsy
2 Awareness Month" in Pennsylvania.

3 WHEREAS, Epilepsy is a neurological condition sometimes
4 referred to as a seizure disorder and is characterized by
5 recurring seizures; and

6 WHEREAS, A seizure is usually defined as a sudden alteration
7 of behavior due to a temporary change in electrical functioning
8 of the brain; and

9 WHEREAS, Normally, the brain continuously generates tiny
10 electrical impulses in an orderly pattern and these impulses
11 travel along neurons and throughout the whole body via chemical
12 messengers called neurotransmitters; and

13 WHEREAS, In epilepsy, the brain's electrical rhythms have a
14 tendency to become imbalanced, resulting in recurrent seizures;
15 and

16 WHEREAS, In patients with seizures, the normal electrical
17 pattern is disrupted by sudden and synchronized bursts of

1 electrical energy that may briefly affect their consciousness,
2 movements or sensations; and

3 WHEREAS, As the fourth most common neurological disorder in
4 the United States, following migraine, stroke and Alzheimer's
5 disease, epilepsy affects 3.4 million Americans of all ages; and

6 WHEREAS, Approximately 200,000 new cases of epilepsy are
7 diagnosed each year, most often in young children and senior
8 citizens; and

9 WHEREAS, One in 26 people will develop epilepsy in his or her
10 lifetime; and

11 WHEREAS, Up to 50,000 Americans die each year from seizures
12 and related causes, including sudden unexplained death in
13 epilepsy; and

14 WHEREAS, The Epilepsy Association of Western and Central
15 Pennsylvania and the Epilepsy Foundation of Eastern Pennsylvania
16 lead the fight to stop seizures, find a cure and overcome the
17 challenges created by epilepsy; and

18 WHEREAS, The Epilepsy Association of Western and Central
19 Pennsylvania and the Epilepsy Foundation of Eastern Pennsylvania
20 are dedicated to ensuring that all people with seizures and
21 epilepsy are able to participate in all of life's experiences;
22 and

23 WHEREAS, The Epilepsy Association of Western and Central
24 Pennsylvania and the Epilepsy Foundation of Eastern Pennsylvania
25 have been serving the needs of Pennsylvanians who live with
26 seizures since 1972; and

27 WHEREAS, Misinformation and misperceptions regarding epilepsy
28 have a long history and are still prevalent throughout society
29 today; and

30 WHEREAS, Epilepsy education and awareness programs seek to

1 combat stigma in the hope of improving the quality of life for
2 people with epilepsy; therefore be it

3 RESOLVED, That the House of Representatives recognize the
4 month of November 2024 as "National Epilepsy Awareness Month" in
5 Pennsylvania.