

## **MEMORANDUM**

**TO:** All House Members  
**FROM:** Representative Keith Gillespie  
**DATE:** June 10, 2011  
**SUBJECT:** Pulmonary Hypertension Awareness Month

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I am introducing a resolution that would declare November 2011 as "Pulmonary Hypertension Awareness Month" in Pennsylvania and recognize the work of the Pulmonary Hypertension Association.

Pulmonary hypertension is a rare blood vessel disorder of the lungs in which the pressure in the pulmonary artery (the blood vessel that leads from the heart to the lungs) rises above normal levels. Pulmonary hypertension is frequently misdiagnosed and has often progressed to late stage by the time it is accurately diagnosed. The condition is chronic and incurable and can lead to heart failure; however, new treatments are available which have significantly improved prognosis.

The Pulmonary Hypertension Association is an organization whose mission is to find ways to prevent and cure pulmonary hypertension, and to provide hope for the pulmonary hypertension community through support, education, advocacy and awareness. PHA has evolved into a community of well over 10,000 pulmonary hypertension patients, caregivers, family members and medical professionals and has become a model for other advocacy groups and organizations.

If you would like to co-sponsor this bill, please contact my office at 705-7167 or email Cheryl at [cgruber@pahousegop.com](mailto:cgruber@pahousegop.com). Thank You.