

A RESOLUTION

1 Designating the month of October 2013 as "Sudden Cardiac Arrest
2 Awareness Month" in Pennsylvania.

3 WHEREAS, Sudden cardiac arrest is a leading cause of death in
4 the United States, accounting for an estimated 360,000 deaths
5 each year according to the Sudden Cardiac Arrest Foundation; and

6 WHEREAS, The Sudden Cardiac Arrest Foundation, a nonprofit
7 organization, was created specifically to raise awareness about
8 sudden cardiac arrest in this Commonwealth and the nation; and

9 WHEREAS, Anyone can experience sudden cardiac arrest,
10 including infants, high school athletes and people 30 years of
11 age and older who have no sign of heart disease; and

12 WHEREAS, Sudden cardiac arrest is extremely deadly, with the
13 National Heart, Lung and Blood Institute giving the disease a
14 mortality rate of approximately 95%; and

15 WHEREAS, The American Heart Association states that to have a
16 chance of surviving a sudden cardiac arrest, victims must
17 receive a lifesaving defibrillation within the first four to six

1 minutes of the attack; and

2 WHEREAS, For every minute that passes without a shock from an
3 automated external defibrillator, the chance of survival
4 decreases by approximately 10%; and

5 WHEREAS, Lifesaving treatments for sudden cardiac arrest are
6 effective if administered in time; and

7 WHEREAS, According to the American Heart Association,
8 cardiopulmonary resuscitation and early defibrillation with an
9 automated external defibrillator more than double the chances
10 that a victim will survive; and

11 WHEREAS, There is a need for comprehensive educational
12 efforts designed to increase awareness of sudden cardiac arrest
13 among medical professionals and the greater public in order to
14 promote early detection and proper treatment of this disease and
15 to improve quality of life; therefore be it

16 RESOLVED, That the Senate designate the month of October 2013
17 as "Sudden Cardiac Arrest Awareness Month" in Pennsylvania to
18 increase awareness and prompt treatment of sudden cardiac
19 arrest.