

## A RESOLUTION

1 Designating the week of February 21 through 27, 2016, as  
2 "Automated External Defibrillator (AED) Awareness Week" in  
3 Pennsylvania.

4 WHEREAS, The word AED is an acronym used as an abbreviation  
5 for the Automated External Defibrillator; and

6 WHEREAS, AEDs are portable medical devices that use  
7 electrodes to automatically analyze and detect cardiac  
8 arrhythmia of sudden cardiac arrest patients; and

9 WHEREAS, AEDs are able to produce a shock which stops the  
10 heart and allows it to return to a normal rhythm, a process  
11 called defibrillation; and

12 WHEREAS, AEDs are used in the event of a sudden cardiac  
13 arrest, which is a condition in which the heart suddenly stops  
14 pumping blood and quivers erratically; and

15 WHEREAS, Approximately 360,000 cases of sudden cardiac arrest  
16 occur yearly, typically without any warning signs; and

17 WHEREAS, A person currently has about a 5% chance of  
18 surviving an incident of cardiac arrest, which decreases 7% to

1 10% with every minute that passes after a person's heart stops  
2 beating; and

3 WHEREAS, Optimal AED placement allows a person to grab the  
4 AED and return to the victim within 90 seconds; and

5 WHEREAS, Given that a person's chances of surviving a sudden  
6 cardiac arrest decrease so rapidly, it is important that AEDs  
7 are readily available; therefore be it

8 RESOLVED, That the House of Representatives designate the  
9 week of February 21 through 27, 2016, as "Automated External  
10 Defibrillator (AED) Awareness Week" in Pennsylvania.