

LEGISLATIVE REFERENCE BUREAU

RESOLUTION

INTRODUCED _____, 20_____

BY _____, District
NO. _____

BY _____, District
NO. _____

BY _____, District
NO. _____

BY _____, District
NO. _____

BY _____, District
NO. _____

See next page for additional co-sponsors.

| | |
|---------------------------------|---------|
| Referred to Committee on | |
| Date _____ | 20_____ |
| Reported _____ | 20_____ |
| As Committed-Amended | |
| Recommendation | |
| _____ | |
| By Hon. _____ | |

A RESOLUTION

1 Designating January 26, 2019, as "Kawasaki Disease Awareness
2 Day" in Pennsylvania.

3 WHEREAS, Kawasaki disease, also known as Kawasaki syndrome,
4 is a serious illness characterized by inflammation of blood
5 vessels throughout the body that primarily affects young
6 children and infants; and

7 WHEREAS, On January 26, 1961, Dr. Tomisaku Kawasaki, a
8 Japanese pediatrician, discovered a pattern of symptoms that
9 would later be named Kawasaki disease; and

10 WHEREAS, Symptoms of Kawasaki disease include a fever lasting
11 at least five days, red bloodshot eyes, rash, inflammation of
12 the mouth, lips and throat and swollen hands, feet and lymph
13 nodes; and

14 WHEREAS, The first cases of Kawasaki disease reported outside
15 of Japan were in Hawaii in 1976; and

16 WHEREAS, Although Kawasaki disease is more prevalent among
17 children of Asian and Pacific Island descent, this illness

1 affects all racial and ethnic groups; and

2 WHEREAS, Kawasaki disease is more prevalent in male children
3 than female children; and

4 WHEREAS, Approximately 75% of Kawasaki disease patients are
5 under five years of age and the majority of cases are diagnosed
6 in winter and early spring; and

7 WHEREAS, The Centers for Disease Control and Prevention
8 estimates 3,277 children under the age of five were hospitalized
9 with Kawasaki disease in 2000, and that number increased to
10 4,040 in 2009; and

11 WHEREAS, Without the standard treatment of intravenous
12 immunoglobulin and aspirin, approximately 25% of children who
13 suffer from Kawasaki disease develop heart disease involving the
14 coronary arteries; and

15 WHEREAS, Kawasaki disease is the number one cause of acquired
16 heart disease in children in the United States; and

17 WHEREAS, Timely diagnosis and treatment is highly effective
18 in preventing coronary complications from Kawasaki disease; and

19 WHEREAS, The precise cause of Kawasaki disease is unknown,
20 and there is no test to definitively diagnose cases; and

21 WHEREAS, Lack of awareness among the public and health care
22 professionals may contribute to the underdiagnosis of Kawasaki
23 disease; and

24 WHEREAS, The growing prevalence of Kawasaki disease and the
25 risk of severe, life-threatening consequences expose the need
26 for further education for the general public, parents and health
27 care professionals; and

28 WHEREAS, January 26, 2019, marks the 58th anniversary of the
29 discovery of Kawasaki disease; therefore be it

30 RESOLVED, That the House of Representatives designate January

1 26, 2019, as "Kawasaki Disease Awareness Day" in Pennsylvania
2 and recognize the importance of awareness in diagnosing and
3 properly treating cases of Kawasaki disease.

