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THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF PENNSYLVANIA

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HOUSE RESOLUTION

No. 1061 Session of  
2015

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INTRODUCED BY NEILSON, YOUNGBLOOD, PICKETT, HARKINS,  
SCHLOSSBERG, DRISCOLL, KIRKLAND, CALTAGIRONE, DAVIS, KINSEY,  
McCARTER, McNEILL, FREEMAN, BRIGGS, LONGIETTI, VEREB,  
READSHAW, V. BROWN, DiGIROLAMO, THOMAS, R. BROWN, TOOHL,  
WATSON, O'NEILL, REGAN, BIZZARRO, BOBACK, MACKENZIE, MILLARD,  
SONNEY, DUSH, QUIGLEY, BULLOCK, HARHART, MARSICO, HENNESSEY,  
PAYNE, GOODMAN, MAHONEY, WARD, STAATS, D. COSTA, GIBBONS,  
HAHN, MAJOR, SAVAGE AND GILLEN, OCTOBER 7, 2016

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INTRODUCED AS NONCONTROVERSIAL RESOLUTION UNDER RULE 35,  
OCTOBER 7, 2016

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A RESOLUTION

1 Designating the month of October 2016 as "Dyslexia Awareness  
2 Month" in Pennsylvania.

3 WHEREAS, Developmental reading disorder, or dyslexia, is a  
4 language-based learning disability that occurs when there is a  
5 problem in areas of the brain that help interpret language; and

6 WHEREAS, Dyslexia's symptoms include slow or inaccurate  
7 reading, poor spelling, poor writing or mixing up similar words;  
8 and

9 WHEREAS, Problems experienced by people with dyslexia may  
10 include:

11 (1) confusing letters or having difficulty learning the  
12 sounds that go with letters;

13 (2) having trouble learning how to speak, recognizing  
14 words or determining the meaning of a simple sentence; and

1           (3) having trouble processing the sounds of language,  
2       such as rhyming;  
3   and

4       WHEREAS, Dyslexia can include disorganization of written and  
5 spoken language or struggles in comprehending and concentrating  
6 on longer reading assignments; and

7       WHEREAS, Dyslexia may also include difficulty in correctly  
8 performing math operations, memorizing number facts or learning  
9 a foreign language; and

10       WHEREAS, Dyslexia is a specific information processing  
11 problem that does not interfere with one's ability to think or  
12 understand complex ideas; and

13       WHEREAS, Contrary to some beliefs, dyslexia is not caused by  
14 either a lack of desire to learn or substandard intelligence, as  
15 people of all backgrounds and intellectual levels have dyslexia,  
16 with the majority of individuals being of normal intelligence  
17 and many being above average in intelligence; and

18       WHEREAS, Students with dyslexia are likely to struggle with  
19 many aspects of academic learning, are at a higher risk of  
20 dropping out of school entirely and often go for years without  
21 being properly diagnosed; and

22       WHEREAS, Aside from problems in school, an individual with  
23 dyslexia can experience a loss of self-esteem and general  
24 reading problems that may persist into adulthood, which can  
25 affect the individual's job performance; and

26       WHEREAS, According to the International Dyslexia Association,  
27 approximately 85% of students classified as having a primary  
28 learning disability have difficulty in reading and language  
29 processing; and

30       WHEREAS, The number of people having some symptoms of

1 dyslexia is much higher, perhaps as much as 15% to 20% of the  
2 entire United States population; and

3 WHEREAS, There is much hope for students who are correctly  
4 diagnosed with this disorder, as they can successfully learn  
5 with appropriate teaching methods; and

6 WHEREAS, The earlier that dyslexia is diagnosed, the better  
7 for the student; and

8 WHEREAS, Dyslexia is a disorder that often manifests among  
9 members of the same family; and

10 WHEREAS, Dyslexia affects individuals throughout their lives,  
11 however, its impact can change at different stages in a person's  
12 life; and

13 WHEREAS, Dyslexia is an often misunderstood language-based  
14 disability and a large percentage of residents of this  
15 Commonwealth experience one or more symptoms of this disorder;  
16 therefore be it

17 RESOLVED, That the House of Representatives designate the  
18 month of October 2016 as "Dyslexia Awareness Month" in  
19 Pennsylvania.