
THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF PENNSYLVANIA

SENATE RESOLUTION

No. 420 Session of
2014

INTRODUCED BY ERICKSON, WASHINGTON, KITCHEN, GREENLEAF, FERLO,
ALLOWAY, FONTANA, SCHWANK, SMITH, KASUNIC, PILEGGI, RAFFERTY,
BAKER AND BOSCOLA, JUNE 27, 2014

INTRODUCED AND ADOPTED, JUNE 27, 2014

A RESOLUTION

1 Recognizing the month of August 2014 as "National Immunization
2 Awareness Month" in Pennsylvania.

3 WHEREAS, Immunization is one of the most significant public
4 health achievements of the 20th century; and

5 WHEREAS, The United States has eradicated smallpox and polio
6 and seen the incidence of measles, pertussis and diphtheria fall
7 by more than 98% since the discovery of vaccinations; and

8 WHEREAS, Vaccines are available for hepatitis A, hepatitis B,
9 influenza, diphtheria, cervical cancer (HPV), measles,
10 meningococcal, mumps, pertussis, pneumococcal disease, polio,
11 rabies, shingles, smallpox, tetanus, tuberculosis, typhoid
12 fever, varicella, yellow fever and several other diseases; and

13 WHEREAS, Throughout the world, 1.7 million children die
14 annually from diseases that could have been prevented with
15 readily available vaccinations; and

16 WHEREAS, Only 77% of children in the United States have
17 received all of the recommended vaccinations; and

1 WHEREAS, Annually, 50,000 adults die in the United States
2 from diseases that could have been prevented with readily
3 available vaccinations; and

4 WHEREAS, Pneumonia and influenza are the fifth leading cause
5 of death among adults 65 years of age or older; and

6 WHEREAS, Less than 70% of adults 65 years of age or older are
7 vaccinated for both pneumonia and influenza; and

8 WHEREAS, August is the ideal month for children to receive
9 immunizations before school begins; therefore be it

10 RESOLVED, That the Senate:

11 (1) support the goals and ideals of National
12 Immunization Awareness Month;

13 (2) encourage local communities to raise awareness
14 surrounding the benefits of immunization;

15 (3) encourage individuals to receive recommended
16 immunizations;

17 (4) recognize and salute health care professionals and
18 researchers that have facilitated the success of
19 immunizations in eradicating and drastically decreasing the
20 incidence of several diseases; and

21 (5) recognize and reaffirm the nation's commitment to
22 continued education surrounding immunization and to
23 furthering every available opportunity for the immunization
24 of children and adults;

25 and be it further

26 RESOLVED, That the Senate recognize the month of August 2014
27 as "National Immunization Awareness Month" in Pennsylvania.