
THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF PENNSYLVANIA

HOUSE RESOLUTION

No. 138 Session of
2001

INTRODUCED BY L. I. COHEN, PALLONE, ADOLPH, ARGALL, ARMSTRONG,
M. BAKER, BARD, BEBKO-JONES, BELARDI, BELFANTI, BENNINGHOFF,
BROWNE, BUNT, CALTAGIRONE, CAPPABIANCA, CAPPELLI, CLARK,
CLYMER, CORRIGAN, COSTA, CREIGHTON, CURRY, DeLUCA, DeWEESE,
DONATUCCI, FAIRCHILD, FICHTER, FLICK, FRANKEL, GEIST, GEORGE,
GODSHALL, GRUCELA, HARHAI, HASAY, HENNESSEY, HERMAN, HERSHEY,
HORSEY, KAISER, KELLER, KENNEY, LEDERER, MAITLAND, MANN,
MARKOSEK, MARSICO, McCALL, McILHATTAN, MICOZZIE, R. MILLER,
S. MILLER, NAILOR, O'BRIEN, ORIE, PIPPY, PISTELLA, READSHAW,
ROSS, RUBLEY, SANTONI, SAYLOR, SCRIMENTI, SHANER, SOLOBAY,
STABACK, T. STEVENSON, STURLA, SURRA, TANGRETTI, THOMAS,
TIGUE, TRAVAGLIO, TRICH, VANCE, WALKO, WATSON, WILT,
WOJNAROSKI, YOUNGBLOOD, YUDICHAK, ZUG AND MELIO,
APRIL 3, 2001

INTRODUCED AS NONCONTROVERSIAL RESOLUTION UNDER RULE 35,
APRIL 3, 2001

A RESOLUTION

1 Recognizing the month of April 2001 as "Autism Awareness Month"
2 in Pennsylvania.

3 WHEREAS, Autism is a severely incapacitating, lifelong
4 developmental disability resulting in significant impairment of
5 an individual's ability to learn, develop healthy interactive
6 behaviors and understand verbal, nonverbal and reciprocal
7 communication; and

8 WHEREAS, Autism is the third most common developmental
9 disability, affecting more than 500,000 individuals nationwide
10 and 25,000 individuals in this State; and

11 WHEREAS, Autism is the result of a neurological disorder

1 affecting the functioning of the brain, but few members of the
2 general public understand this complex syndrome; and

3 WHEREAS, Although a cure for autism has not been found,
4 persons with autism can be helped to reach their greatest
5 potential through accurate early diagnosis, appropriate
6 education and intervention; and

7 WHEREAS, Support groups such as the Greater Philadelphia
8 Chapter of the Autism Society of America have dedicated years of
9 service in their ongoing efforts to advocate for the rights,
10 humane treatment and appropriate education of all persons with
11 autism; and

12 WHEREAS, These groups remain committed to their cause and to
13 educating families, professionals and the general public to
14 better understand this lifelong disability; and

15 WHEREAS, Autism is a complex disability requiring increased
16 research to one day find a cure and prevention and requiring
17 greater recognition and understanding to ensure that persons
18 with autism are accurately diagnosed and appropriately treated
19 throughout their lives; therefore be it

20 RESOLVED, That the House of Representatives recognize the
21 month of April 2001 as "Autism Awareness Month" in Pennsylvania
22 and urge its observance throughout this Commonwealth.