
THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF PENNSYLVANIA

HOUSE RESOLUTION

No. 660 Session of
2002

INTRODUCED BY LEWIS, ARGALL, BASTIAN, BEBKO-JONES, BELARDI,
BUNT, CALTAGIRONE, CAPPELLI, CORNELL, CORRIGAN, COY,
CREIGHTON, DeWEESE, DONATUCCI, J. EVANS, FAIRCHILD, FEESE,
FLEAGLE, FORCIER, GABIG, GEIST, GEORGE, GODSHALL, HARHAI,
HERMAN, HERSHEY, HUTCHINSON, JAMES, LAUGHLIN, LEDERER,
LESCOVITZ, MAJOR, MARKOSEK, MCGILL, MELIO, NAILOR, PERZEL,
PHILLIPS, PICKETT, PIPPY, ROONEY, ROSS, RUBLEY, SANTONI,
SATHER, SCAVELLO, SCHRODER, SCHULER, SHANER, THOMAS, TIGUE,
WATSON AND G. WRIGHT, SEPTEMBER 24, 2002

INTRODUCED AS NONCONTROVERSIAL RESOLUTION UNDER RULE 35,
SEPTEMBER 24, 2002

A RESOLUTION

1 Designating the year 2002 as "Year of the Polio Survivor" and
2 the month of September 2002 as "Polio Survivor Month" in
3 Pennsylvania.

4 WHEREAS, There are an estimated 1.6 million polio survivors
5 in the United States today, of whom at least half may be
6 experiencing new medical problems; and

7 WHEREAS, At least 70% of paralytic and 40% of nonparalytic
8 polio survivors are developing post-polio sequelae (PPS),
9 unexpected and often disabling symptoms, including overwhelming
10 fatigue, muscle weakness, muscle and joint pain, sleep
11 disorders, heightened sensitivity to anesthesia, cold and pain
12 and difficulty swallowing and breathing, that occur decades
13 after the poliovirus attack; and

14 WHEREAS, PPS can be treated and even prevented if polio

1 survivors are taught to conserve energy, to stop abusing
2 poliovirus-damaged neurons, muscles and joints and to use
3 assistive devices; and

4 WHEREAS, Through a letter and public awareness campaign, the
5 International Post-Polio Task Force plans to provide a one-page
6 summary about the cause and treatment of PPS to every doctor and
7 polio survivor in the United States and the world; and

8 WHEREAS, The year 2002 is the 50th anniversary of the most
9 devastating polio epidemic in the United States, which affected
10 nearly 60,000 people; and

11 WHEREAS, The task force endeavors to provide accurate
12 information about PPS and promote research into its cause and
13 cure; therefore be it

14 RESOLVED, That the House of Representatives designate the
15 year 2002 as "Year of the Polio Survivor" and the month of
16 September 2002 as "Polio Survivor Month" in Pennsylvania.