
THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF PENNSYLVANIA

HOUSE RESOLUTION

No. 563 Session of
2006

INTRODUCED BY SCAVELLO, ARGALL, BAKER, BALDWIN, BEBKO-JONES,
BEYER, BIANCUCCI, CALTAGIRONE, CAPPELLI, COHEN, CORNELL,
CORRIGAN, CRAHALLA, CREIGHTON, CRUZ, DENLINGER, DIGIROLAMO,
DONATUCCI, J. EVANS, FABRIZIO, FEESE, FICHTER, FLEAGLE,
FORCIER, GABIG, GEIST, GEORGE, GILLESPIE, GINGRICH, GOOD,
GOODMAN, GRUCELA, HERMAN, HERSHEY, HESS, JAMES, KILLION,
KOTIK, LEACH, LEDERER, LEH, MAJOR, MANN, MARKOSEK, MCGILL,
MCILHATTAN, MILLARD, MUSTIO, MYERS, PALLONE, PARKER,
PHILLIPS, PICKETT, PISTELLA, RAPP, READSHAW, REICHLEY,
ROBERTS, ROHRER, ROSS, RUBLEY, SAINATO, SANTONI, SATHER,
SHANER, SHAPIRO, SIPTROTH, B. SMITH, SOLOBAY, SONNEY, THOMAS,
TIGUE, TRUE, TURZAI, WALKO, WOJNAROSKI, YOUNGBLOOD AND ZUG,
JANUARY 31, 2006

INTRODUCED AS NONCONTROVERSIAL RESOLUTION UNDER RULE 35,
JANUARY 31, 2006

A RESOLUTION

1 Recognizing 2006 as the "Year of Polio Education."

2 WHEREAS, 2005 marked the 50th anniversary of the injectable
3 killed polio vaccine; and

4 WHEREAS, Polio vaccines have virtually eliminated naturally
5 occurring polio in the United States but not in other parts of
6 the world; and

7 WHEREAS, As few as 57% of American children receive all doses
8 of necessary vaccines during childhood, including the polio
9 vaccine; and

10 WHEREAS, The Centers for Disease Control and Prevention
11 recommends that every child in the United States receive all

1 doses of inactivated polio vaccine; and

2 WHEREAS, The success of this polio vaccine has caused people
3 to forget that 1.63 million Americans born before its
4 development had polio during epidemics in the 20th century; and

5 WHEREAS, At least 70% of paralytic polio survivors and 40% of
6 nonparalytic polio survivors develop post-polio sequelae, the
7 unexpected and often disabling symptoms which occur up to 35
8 years after a poliovirus attack, including overwhelming fatigue,
9 muscle weakness, muscle and joint pain, sleep disorders,
10 heightened sensitivity to anesthesia, cold pain and difficulty
11 swallowing and breathing; and

12 WHEREAS, 2006 marks the 132nd anniversary of the diagnosis of
13 the first case of post-polio sequelae and the 22nd anniversary
14 of the creation of the International Post-Polio Task Force; and

15 WHEREAS, Research and clinical work by members of the
16 International Post-Polio Task Force led to the discovery that
17 post-polio sequelae can be treated and prevented if polio
18 survivors are taught to conserve energy and use assistive
19 devices to stop damaging and killing the overworked, poliovirus-
20 damaged neurons in the spinal cord and brain that survived the
21 polio attack; and

22 WHEREAS, Many medical professionals and polio survivors do
23 not know of the existence of post-polio sequelae or the
24 available treatments; and

25 WHEREAS, The mission of the International Post-Polio Task
26 Force includes educating medical professionals and the world's
27 20 million polio survivors about post-polio sequelae through The
28 Post-Polio Letter Campaign, The Post-Polio Institute at New
29 Jersey's Englewood Hospital and Medical Center, The Polio
30 Paradox and television public service announcements provided by

1 the National Broadcasting Company; and

2 WHEREAS, It is appropriate to observe 2006 as the "Year of
3 Polio Education"; therefore be it

4 RESOLVED, That the House of Representatives recognize the
5 need for every child in the United States and throughout the
6 world to be vaccinated against polio and acknowledge the battle
7 against post-polio sequelae fought by the 1.63 million Americans
8 who have survived polio; and be it further

9 RESOLVED, That the House of Representatives request that
10 appropriate Federal departments and agencies educate the people
11 of the United States about the need for polio vaccination and
12 educate polio survivors and medical professionals in the United
13 States about the cause and treatment of post-polio sequelae; and
14 be it further

15 RESOLVED, That the House of Representatives support the goals
16 and ideals of observing 2006 as the "Year of Polio Education" to
17 promote vaccination and post-polio sequelae education.