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THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF PENNSYLVANIA

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HOUSE RESOLUTION

No. 252      Session of  
2007

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INTRODUCED BY COSTA, BARRAR, BEYER, BIANCUCCI, BISHOP, CLYMER, COX, CREIGHTON, DALEY, DIGIROLAMO, DONATUCCI, J. EVANS, FABRIZIO, FREEMAN, GALLOWAY, GEIST, GEORGE, GIBBONS, GINGRICH, GOODMAN, GRUCELA, HARHART, HARRIS, HENNESSEY, HERSHEY, HICKERNELL, JAMES, KENNEY, KILLION, KOTIK, KULA, MAHONEY, MAJOR, MANN, MANTZ, MARKOSEK, MCGEEHAN, MCILHATTAN, MILLARD, MOYER, MUSTIO, MYERS, NAILOR, M. O'BRIEN, PALLONE, PARKER, PAYNE, PETRONE, PHILLIPS, PYLE, RAMALEY, RAPP, READSHAW, ROHRER, ROSS, SAINATO, SANTONI, SAYLOR, SCAVELLO, SIPTROTH, SOLOBAY, SONNEY, STERN, R. STEVENSON, R. TAYLOR, THOMAS, VEREB, VULAKOVICH, J. WHITE, YOUNGBLOOD, GILLESPIE AND MILNE, APRIL 24, 2007

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INTRODUCED AS NONCONTROVERSIAL RESOLUTION UNDER RULE 35,  
APRIL 24, 2007

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A RESOLUTION

1 Designating the week of May 13 through 19, 2007, as  
2 "Fibromyalgia Awareness Week" in Pennsylvania.

3 WHEREAS, An estimated 10 million people in the United States  
4 have been diagnosed with fibromyalgia; and

5 WHEREAS, Fibromyalgia is caused by a chemical imbalance in  
6 the brain and is associated with other central nervous system  
7 abnormalities; and

8 WHEREAS, Fibromyalgia is a chronic disease for which there is  
9 no cure; and

10 WHEREAS, Fibromyalgia affects people of all ages, races and  
11 socioeconomic backgrounds; and

12 WHEREAS, Diagnoses are made, on average, ten years after

1 onset; and

2 WHEREAS, Persons with fibromyalgia live with widespread pain  
3 often described as burning, gnawing or aching; and

4 WHEREAS, Other symptoms include extreme fatigue, sleep  
5 disorders, irritable bowel syndrome, irritable bladder syndrome,  
6 chronic migraines, chest pain, morning stiffness and muscle  
7 weakness; and

8 WHEREAS, Fibromyalgia affects coordination, short-term memory  
9 and cognitive function and causes mood swings, depression and  
10 anxiety; and

11 WHEREAS, Health care costs for fibromyalgia and related  
12 socioeconomic costs are an estimated \$20 billion per year in the  
13 United States; and

14 WHEREAS, Persons with fibromyalgia take at least three drugs  
15 daily, at an average cost of \$2,300 per year, to control  
16 symptoms; and

17 WHEREAS, Fibromyalgia can be as disabling as rheumatoid  
18 arthritis: 30% of persons with fibromyalgia cannot work, and 26%  
19 of those persons receive Social Security disability benefits;  
20 and

21 WHEREAS, Workplace adaptations can alleviate symptom  
22 aggravators for some affected individuals; and

23 WHEREAS, The National Fibromyalgia Association and other  
24 fibromyalgia support organizations join in promoting public  
25 awareness relating to education, diagnosis, research and  
26 treatment; therefore be it

27 RESOLVED, That the House of Representatives designate the  
28 week of May 13 through 19, 2007, as "Fibromyalgia Awareness  
29 Week" in Pennsylvania and urge support for affected individuals  
30 and research for a cure.