
THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF PENNSYLVANIA

HOUSE RESOLUTION

No. 486 Session of
2007

INTRODUCED BY DePASQUALE, NAILOR, BAKER, BEAR, BENNINGHOFF,
BEYER, BISHOP, BOBACK, CALTAGIRONE, CAUSER, COHEN, CRUZ,
DALEY, DiGIROLAMO, DONATUCCI, EVERETT, FRANKEL, FREEMAN,
GEIST, GIBBONS, GINGRICH, GOODMAN, HELM, HENNESSEY, HERSHEY,
HESS, HORNAMAN, JAMES, KORTZ, KOTIK, KULA, MAJOR, MANTZ,
MARKOSEK, McILHATTAN, MELIO, MILLARD, MOUL, MOYER, MURT,
MUSTIO, M. O'BRIEN, OLIVER, PALLONE, PARKER, PETRONE,
PHILLIPS, RAMALEY, READSHAW, REICHLEY, ROSS, SAINATO,
SANTONI, SOLOBAY, SONNEY, STABACK, STERN, SWANGER, R. TAYLOR,
TRUE, VEREB, VULAKOVICH, WALKO, J. WHITE, WOJNAROSKI AND
YOUNGBLOOD, OCTOBER 29, 2007

INTRODUCED AS NONCONTROVERSIAL RESOLUTION UNDER RULE 35,
OCTOBER 29, 2007

A RESOLUTION

1 Designating the month of November 2007 as "Hydrocephalus
2 Awareness Month" in Pennsylvania.

3 WHEREAS, Hydrocephalus is a serious neurological condition,
4 characterized by the abnormal buildup of cerebrospinal fluids in
5 the ventricles of the brain; and

6 WHEREAS, There is no known cure for hydrocephalus, which
7 affects an estimated one million Americans; and

8 WHEREAS, Out of every 1,000 babies, one to two are born with
9 hydrocephalus; and

10 WHEREAS, More than 375,000 older Americans have
11 hydrocephalus, which often goes undetected or misdiagnosed as
12 dementia, Alzheimer's disease or Parkinson's disease; and

13 WHEREAS, With appropriate diagnosis and treatment, people

1 with hydrocephalus are able to live full and productive lives;
2 and

3 WHEREAS, The standard treatment for hydrocephalus was
4 developed in 1952 and carries multiple risks, including shunt
5 failure, infection and over drainage; and

6 WHEREAS, There are fewer than ten centers in the United
7 States specializing in the treatment of adults with normal
8 pressure hydrocephalus; and

9 WHEREAS, Each year, the people of the United States spend in
10 excess of \$1 billion to treat hydrocephalus; and

11 WHEREAS, A September 2005 conference sponsored by seven
12 institutes of the National Institutes of Health, and entitled,
13 "Hydrocephalus: Myths, New Facts, Clear Directions," resulted in
14 efforts to initiate new, collaborative research and treatment
15 efforts; and

16 WHEREAS, The Hydrocephalus Association is one of the nation's
17 oldest and largest patient and research advocacy and support
18 networks for individuals suffering from hydrocephalus; and

19 WHEREAS, Further research into the epidemiology,
20 pathophysiology, disease burden and improved treatment of
21 hydrocephalus should be conducted or supported; and

22 WHEREAS, Public awareness and professional education
23 regarding hydrocephalus should increase through partnerships
24 between the Federal Government and patient advocacy
25 organizations, such as the Hydrocephalus Association; therefore
26 be it

27 RESOLVED, That the House of Representatives urge the Federal
28 Government to collect comprehensive statistics and data
29 regarding the seriousness of hydrocephalus and its impact on
30 American families; and be it further

1 RESOLVED, That the House of Representatives designate the
2 month of November 2007 as "Hydrocephalus Awareness Month" in
3 Pennsylvania so that Pennsylvanians can become more familiar
4 with hydrocephalus and the individuals dedicated to finding its
5 cure.