

THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF PENNSYLVANIA

HOUSE RESOLUTION

No. 564 Session of 2008

INTRODUCED BY ROAE, ADOLPH, BAKER, BARRAR, BENNINGHOFF, BEYER, CALTAGIRONE, CAPPELLI, CAUSER, COHEN, CONKLIN, CREIGHTON, CRUZ, DALEY, DENLINGER, DIGIROLAMO, DONATUCCI, FLECK, GALLOWAY, GEIST, GEORGE, GIBBONS, GINGRICH, GOODMAN, GRUCELA, HELM, HENNESSEY, HERSHEY, HESS, JAMES, KENNEY, KILLION, KOTIK, KULA, MAHONEY, MAJOR, MANTZ, McILHATTAN, MELIO, MILLARD, MOUL, MOYER, MURT, MYERS, PALLONE, PARKER, PHILLIPS, RAMALEY, RAPP, READSHAW, REICHLEY, ROHRER, ROSS, RUBLEY, SAINATO, SANTONI, SAYLOR, SCAVELLO, SIPTROTH, SWANGER, THOMAS, TURZAI, VULAKOVICH, WATERS, J. WHITE, WOJNAROSKI, YOUNGBLOOD, CLYMER AND D. O'BRIEN, JANUARY 28, 2008

INTRODUCED AS NONCONTROVERSIAL RESOLUTION UNDER RULE 35, JANUARY 28, 2008

A RESOLUTION

1 Designating February 7 through 14, 2008, as "Congenital Heart  
2 Defect Week" and February 14, 2008, as "Congenital Heart  
3 Defect Day" in Pennsylvania.

4 WHEREAS, Sometimes during early pregnancy, a baby's heart  
5 fails to form properly, resulting in structural abnormalities  
6 known as congenital heart defects (CHD); and

7 WHEREAS, Although some defects are genetic, in many cases the  
8 cause is unknown; and

9 WHEREAS, It is estimated that 40,000 babies with CHD are born  
10 in the United States each year; and

11 WHEREAS, More than 1 million American children and adults  
12 with CHD and childhood onset heart disease are alive today; and

13 WHEREAS, CHD is the most frequently occurring birth defect

1 and is the leading cause of birth defect related deaths; and

2 WHEREAS, Although some babies will be diagnosed at birth,  
3 sometimes the diagnosis is not made until days, weeks, months or  
4 even years later; and

5 WHEREAS, In some cases, CHDs are not detected until  
6 adolescence or adulthood; and

7 WHEREAS, Some CHDs may not require treatment other than  
8 periodic visits to a pediatric cardiologist; and

9 WHEREAS, Others can be treated with medications or repaired  
10 with surgery or other procedures; and

11 WHEREAS, Many cases of sudden cardiac death in young athletes  
12 are caused by undiagnosed CHDs and childhood onset heart  
13 disease; and

14 WHEREAS, It is estimated that more adults than children are  
15 living with congenital heart disease, and this population is  
16 expected to grow by 5% each year; and

17 WHEREAS, Many adults with CHD are not receiving adequate  
18 ongoing care from trained specialists; therefore be it

19 RESOLVED, That the House of Representatives designate  
20 February 7 through 14, 2008, as "Congenital Heart Defect Week"  
21 and February 14, 2008, as "Congenital Heart Defect Day" in  
22 Pennsylvania.