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THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF PENNSYLVANIA

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# SENATE RESOLUTION

No. 192      Session of  
2007

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INTRODUCED BY WAUGH, C. WILLIAMS, PUNT, STOUT, FERLO, FONTANA,  
TARTAGLIONE, PILEGGI, RAFFERTY, D. WHITE, ERICKSON, LAVALLE,  
O'PAKE, STACK, WASHINGTON, KASUNIC, PIPPY, COSTA, FOLMER,  
EARLL, BRUBAKER, WONDERLING, KITCHEN, WOZNIAK, BAKER,  
DINNIMAN, BROWNE AND ARMSTRONG, OCTOBER 15, 2007

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REFERRED TO RULES AND EXECUTIVE NOMINATIONS, OCTOBER 15, 2007

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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  
14 with hydrocephalus are able to live full and productive lives;  
15 and

16 WHEREAS, The standard treatment for hydrocephalus was

1 developed in 1952 and carries multiple risks, including shunt  
2 failure, infection and over drainage; and

3 WHEREAS, There are fewer than ten centers in the United  
4 States specializing in the treatment of adults with normal  
5 pressure hydrocephalus; and

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

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

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

16 WHEREAS, Further research into the epidemiology,  
17 pathophysiology, disease burden and improved treatment of  
18 hydrocephalus should be conducted or supported; and

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

24 RESOLVED, That the Senate urge the Federal Government to  
25 collect comprehensive statistics and data regarding the  
26 seriousness of hydrocephalus and its impact on American  
27 families; and be it further

28 RESOLVED, That the Senate designate the month of November  
29 2007 as "Hydrocephalus Awareness Month" in Pennsylvania so that  
30 Pennsylvanians can become more familiar with hydrocephalus and

1 the individuals dedicated to finding its cure.