

THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF PENNSYLVANIA

# SENATE RESOLUTION

No. 306 Session of  
2008

INTRODUCED BY VANCE, ERICKSON, BAKER, O'PAKE, BOSCOLA, BROWNE,  
COSTA, DINNIMAN, FERLO, FOLMER, FONTANA, GREENLEAF, KASUNIC,  
KITCHEN, LAVALLE, LOGAN, MUSTO, ORIE, PILEGGI, PIPPY, PUNT,  
RAFFERTY, REGOLA, RHOADES, ROBBINS, STACK, STOUT,  
TARTAGLIONE, TOMLINSON, WASHINGTON, M. WHITE, A. WILLIAMS,  
C. WILLIAMS, WONDERLING, WOZNIAK AND ARMSTRONG,  
APRIL 29, 2008

INTRODUCED AND ADOPTED, APRIL 29, 2008

## A RESOLUTION

1 Designating the month of May 2008 as "Arthritis Awareness Month"  
2 in Pennsylvania.

3 WHEREAS, Arthritis refers to more than 100 different diseases  
4 that cause pain, swelling and limited movement in joints and  
5 connective tissue throughout the body, the most prevalent forms  
6 of which are osteoarthritis, fibromyalgia and rheumatoid  
7 arthritis; and

8 WHEREAS, One in five adults in the United States reports  
9 having doctor-diagnosed arthritis; and

10 WHEREAS, The prevalence of arthritis is higher among women  
11 than men; and

12 WHEREAS, Arthritis is the second most common chronic health  
13 problems and the number one cause of limitation in movement in  
14 the United States; and

15 WHEREAS, Arthritis costs the United States economy \$124.5

1 billion per year in medical care and lost wages; and

2 WHEREAS, The specific causes of arthritis are not yet known  
3 for most forms of the disease, but there are many things that  
4 can be done to reduce the impact of arthritis on everyday life;  
5 and

6 WHEREAS, The key to reducing the impact of arthritis is early  
7 diagnosis and a treatment plan tailored to the needs of each  
8 individual; and

9 WHEREAS, Most treatment programs include a combination of  
10 medication, exercise, rest, use of heat and cold, joint  
11 protection techniques and sometimes surgery; therefore be it

12 RESOLVED, That the Senate designate May 2008 as "Arthritis  
13 Awareness Month" in Pennsylvania and urge residents of this  
14 Commonwealth to be aware of the seriousness of this disease and  
15 to seek appropriate treatment to minimize its impact on their  
16 lives.