

THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF PENNSYLVANIA

HOUSE RESOLUTION

No. 9

Session of
2009

INTRODUCED BY HANNA, BARRAR, BISHOP, BRENNAN, CAUSER, CURRY,
DELOZIER, DONATUCCI, FRANKEL, GEIST, GEORGE, GIBBONS,
HENNESSEY, HESS, HUTCHINSON, KIRKLAND, KORTZ, KOTIK, MAJOR,
MELIO, MILLARD, M. O'BRIEN, PARKER, PAYNE, QUINN, ROSS,
SAINATO, SANTONI, SONNEY, STABACK, SWANGER, WHITE, ROCK,
MILLER, FABRIZIO, CONKLIN, GOODMAN, MCILVAINE SMITH,
YOUNGBLOOD, BEYER, SIPTROTH, VULAKOVICH, PALLONE, BEAR,
HORNAMAN, FLECK, MANN, MAHONEY, MCCALL AND WALKO,
JANUARY 27, 2009

REFERRED TO COMMITTEE ON HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES, JANUARY 27,
2009

A RESOLUTION

1 Designating February 1, 2009, as "Peripartum Cardiomyopathy
2 Awareness Day" in Pennsylvania; and urging the National
3 Institutes of Health to recognize "Peripartum Cardiomyopathy
4 Awareness Day" and to advance research relating to peripartum
5 cardiomyopathy.

6 WHEREAS, Peripartum cardiomyopathy is a rare disorder in
7 which a weakened heart is diagnosed within the final month of
8 pregnancy or within five months after delivery; and

9 WHEREAS, In the United States peripartum cardiomyopathy
10 complicates one in every 1,300 to 4,000 deliveries; and

11 WHEREAS, Peripartum cardiomyopathy occurs in childbearing
12 women of any age but most commonly occurs after 30 years of age;
13 and

14 WHEREAS, Peripartum cardiomyopathy is most likely to develop
15 in African-American women living in the South but can occur in a

pregnant or postpartum woman of any age or geographic location;
and

WHEREAS, Death rates associated with peripartum
cardiomyopathy have ranged between 18% and 56%; and

WHEREAS, Recent effective treatment of peripartum
cardiomyopathy has progressively improved survival and recovery
to rates of 95% or more, without the need for heart transplant;
and

WHEREAS, With treatment, women affected by this disorder can
have improved heart function and live full and active lives; and

WHEREAS, Compliance with prescription instructions, medical
guidelines and physician directives is important to
cardiovascular health, particularly for women with peripartum
cardiomyopathy; therefore be it

RESOLVED, That the House of Representatives of the
Commonwealth of Pennsylvania designate February 1, 2009, as
"Peripartum Cardiomyopathy Awareness Day" in Pennsylvania and
urge all residents to recognize that peripartum cardiomyopathy
is a serious women's health threat; and be it further

RESOLVED, That the House of Representatives urge the National
Institutes of Health to recognize "Peripartum Cardiomyopathy
Awareness Day" and to seek appropriate funding for research
aimed at obtaining a better understanding of this high-risk
condition of pregnancy; and be it further

RESOLVED, That the House of Representatives challenge all
women to take charge of their cardiovascular health and take the
necessary preventive steps to healthy lives and pregnancies; and
be it further

RESOLVED, That a copy of this resolution be transmitted to
the National Institutes of Health, 9000 Rockville Pike,

1 Bethesda, MD 20892.