

THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF PENNSYLVANIA

HOUSE RESOLUTION

No. 44 Session of 2011

INTRODUCED BY HANNA, BAKER, BISHOP, BRADFORD, BURNS,  
 CALTAGIRONE, D. COSTA, DIGIROLAMO, GEORGE, GINGRICH, GOODMAN,  
 KAVULICH, KIRKLAND, KORTZ, LONGIETTI, MAHONEY, MANN, MATZIE,  
 MILLARD, M. O'BRIEN, PASHINSKI, READSHAW, REICHLEY, SABATINA,  
 SANTONI, STABACK, WAGNER, WHITE, YOUNGBLOOD AND SWANGER,  
 FEBRUARY 1, 2011

INTRODUCED AS NONCONTROVERSIAL RESOLUTION UNDER RULE 35,  
 FEBRUARY 1, 2011

A RESOLUTION

1 Designating February 8, 2011, 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  
 16 pregnant or postpartum woman of any age or geographic location;  
 17 and

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

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

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

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

13       RESOLVED, That the House of Representatives of the  
14 Commonwealth of Pennsylvania designate February 8, 2011, as  
15 "Peripartum Cardiomyopathy Awareness Day" in Pennsylvania and  
16 urge all residents to recognize that peripartum cardiomyopathy  
17 is a serious women's health threat; and be it further

18       RESOLVED, That the House of Representatives urge the National  
19 Institutes of Health to recognize "Peripartum Cardiomyopathy  
20 Awareness Day" and continue research aimed at obtaining a better  
21 understanding of this high-risk condition of pregnancy; and be  
22 it further

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

27       RESOLVED, That a copy of this resolution be transmitted to  
28 the National Institutes of Health, 9000 Rockville Pike,  
29 Bethesda, MD 20892.