

THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF PENNSYLVANIA

SENATE RESOLUTION

No. 301 Session of
2012

INTRODUCED BY SOLOBAY, KASUNIC, BROWNE, COSTA, ERICKSON,
FONTANA, RAFFERTY, SCHWANK, STACK, KITCHEN, ALLOWAY,
DINNIMAN, M. WHITE, BAKER, VOGEL, PIPPY, D. WHITE, GREENLEAF,
FERLO, TARTAGLIONE, PILEGGI, BREWSTER, BLAKE AND BOSCOLA,
MAY 1, 2012

INTRODUCED AND ADOPTED, MAY 1, 2012

A RESOLUTION

1 Recognizing the month of May 2012 as "Lupus Awareness Month" and
2 May 10, 2012, as "World Lupus Day" in Pennsylvania.

3 WHEREAS, Every day an estimated 65,000 Pennsylvanians, 1.5
4 million Americans and five million people worldwide struggle
5 with the debilitating consequences of lupus, a potentially fatal
6 autoimmune disease that can damage any part of a lupus patient's
7 body; and

8 WHEREAS, In an autoimmune disease like lupus, the immune
9 system effectively loses its way, and, instead of warding off
10 foreign invaders like viruses and bacteria, the immune system
11 attacks healthy cells, causing inflammation and pain and leading
12 to permanent damage; and

13 WHEREAS, Lupus has no cure and no known cause, and, despite
14 the current treatment and available medications, many lupus
15 patients have symptoms that cannot be managed well enough for
16 patients to lead normal lives, complete their education and

1 maintain employment; and

2 WHEREAS, Nine out of ten people with lupus are women, and 80%
3 of new cases are diagnosed among women between 15 and 44 years
4 of age, with the majority of new cases seen in women in their
5 late teens and early 20s; and

6 WHEREAS, Although the disease is most frequently seen in
7 those patients, individuals of any age or gender can develop
8 lupus; and

9 WHEREAS, Lupus was identified as a disease in 1872, but it is
10 an underrecognized public health problem that attracts rare
11 attention and funding for research for a cure; and

12 WHEREAS, Lupus is often referred to as "the disease that
13 fools," due to the patient's unawareness of its presence for
14 extended periods of time; and

15 WHEREAS, The Lupus Foundation of Pennsylvania, a nonprofit
16 volunteer health organization with a history of service since
17 1975, provides supportive services to the victims of lupus,
18 funds medical research into the disease's causes and possible
19 treatments and educates the public concerning the realities of
20 lupus; therefore be it

21 RESOLVED, That the Senate recognize the month of May 2012 as
22 "Lupus Awareness Month" and May 10, 2012, as "World Lupus Day"
23 in Pennsylvania so that more attention and awareness may be
24 given to the disease.