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THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF PENNSYLVANIA

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# HOUSE RESOLUTION

No. 82 Session of  
2013

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INTRODUCED BY PETRI, CALTAGIRONE, COHEN, D. COSTA, GINGRICH,  
HAGGERTY, HENNESSEY, KORTZ, MILNE, MOLCHANY, MURT, READSHAW,  
SWANGER AND WATSON, FEBRUARY 11, 2013

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REFERRED TO COMMITTEE ON HEALTH, FEBRUARY 11, 2013

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A RESOLUTION

1 Urging the Congress of the United States to increase funding to  
2 the National Institutes of Health.

3 WHEREAS, Between 2010 and 2011, total health care spending  
4 increased by 4%; and

5 WHEREAS, However, health care spending, including biomedical  
6 and health research and development, accounts for less than 5%  
7 of overall spending; and

8 WHEREAS, In 2011, biomedical and health research and  
9 development spending declined by more than \$4 billion or 3%; and

10 WHEREAS, If the United States is to achieve its goal of  
11 improving the public's health, the nation's investment in health  
12 research must continue to grow long term; and

13 WHEREAS, Research funding by the National Institutes of  
14 Health (NIH) drives the transformation of the practice of  
15 medicine; and

16 WHEREAS, The NIH's ability to conduct and support lifesaving  
17 research is at risk without increased funding; and

1 WHEREAS, The White House Office of Management and Budget has  
2 estimated that the NIH alone could lose \$2.53 billion in funding  
3 in fiscal year 2013; and

4 WHEREAS, NIH-supported research has resulted in the  
5 prevention, diagnosis and treatment of many diseases and has  
6 decreased the absolute number of cancer deaths in this nation;  
7 and

8 WHEREAS, In 2011, the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania ranked 5th  
9 in the total amount of money awarded by the NIH to conduct and  
10 support research; and

11 WHEREAS, Recent polls show that a majority of Americans said  
12 more funding for medical and health research now is essential to  
13 our future health and economic prosperity; and

14 WHEREAS, Activities supported by NIH are integral to this  
15 nation's international competitiveness and to the health and  
16 well-being of all Americans; therefore be it

17 RESOLVED, That the House of Representatives of the  
18 Commonwealth of Pennsylvania urge the Congress of the United  
19 States to enact legislation to increase funding to the National  
20 Institutes of Health by 6.7% in each of the next three years to  
21 accelerate the momentum of discovery to improve health and  
22 quality of life for millions of Americans; and be it further

23 RESOLVED, That copies of this resolution be transmitted to  
24 the presiding officers of each house of Congress and to each  
25 member of Congress from Pennsylvania.