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THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF PENNSYLVANIA

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HOUSE RESOLUTION

No. 418 Session of  
2013

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INTRODUCED BY BENNINGHOFF, BAKER, BIZZARRO, BROOKS, V. BROWN,  
BROWNLEE, CALTAGIRONE, COHEN, SCHLEGEL CULVER, M. DALEY,  
DAVIS, DIGIROLAMO, DONATUCCI, EMRICK, EVERETT, FREEMAN,  
GILLEN, GINGRICH, GODSHALL, GROVE, HARHART, HENNESSEY, HESS,  
JAMES, KAVULICH, KORTZ, LONGIETTI, LUCAS, MACKENZIE, MAHONEY,  
MAJOR, MARKOSEK, MARSICO, MICOZZIE, MILLARD, R. MILLER,  
MILNE, PAINTER, PICKETT, QUINN, READSHAW, ROCK, ROSS,  
SCHLOSSBERG, SONNEY, TOOHIL, VEREB AND WATSON, AUGUST 8, 2013

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INTRODUCED AS NONCONTROVERSIAL RESOLUTION UNDER RULE 35,  
AUGUST 8, 2013

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A RESOLUTION

1 Designating the week of September 15 through 21, 2013, as  
2 "National Rehabilitation Awareness Celebration Week" in  
3 Pennsylvania.

4 WHEREAS, Rehabilitation is a medical specialty which helps  
5 restore people affected by potentially disabling disease or  
6 traumatic injury to good health and functional, productive lives  
7 and also helps minimize physical or cognitive disabilities; and

8 WHEREAS, Rehabilitation often centers on an interdisciplinary  
9 team approach to care by physiatrists; physical, occupational,  
10 respiratory and recreational therapists; speech and language  
11 pathologists; rehabilitation nurses; psychologists; vocational  
12 counselors and other professionals who work with patients to  
13 restore the greatest level of function or independence; and

14 WHEREAS, The rehabilitation team helps individuals overcome  
15 obstacles and accomplish normal tasks of daily living; and

1 WHEREAS, Because disability does not discriminate and every  
2 person is at risk of disability, everyone is a potential  
3 candidate for rehabilitation; and

4 WHEREAS, Nearly 50 million Americans have a disability and  
5 most Americans will require at least one rehabilitation service  
6 at some point in their lives; and

7 WHEREAS, Rehabilitation is an integral part of health care  
8 and a tremendous component in providing patients with positive  
9 outcomes; and

10 WHEREAS, Rehabilitation is individualized so every patient  
11 can progress at his or her own ability level; and

12 WHEREAS, Rehabilitation can lengthen life, improve the  
13 quality of life and reduce subsequent illness; and

14 WHEREAS, Statistics show that medical rehabilitation improves  
15 lives and saves money; and

16 WHEREAS, People participating in rehabilitation programs of  
17 care are able to regain productivity and return to work, school  
18 and independent living; and

19 WHEREAS, For every \$1 spent on rehabilitation care, it is  
20 estimated that \$11 are saved on long-term disability costs; and

21 WHEREAS, Independence gained or retained through  
22 rehabilitation is priceless; therefore be it

23 RESOLVED, That the House of Representatives designate  
24 September 15 through 21, 2013, as "National Rehabilitation  
25 Awareness Celebration Week" in Pennsylvania and encourage all  
26 citizens to renew their commitment to people with disabilities  
27 and to the efforts of rehabilitative medicine improving the  
28 quality of life.