
THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF PENNSYLVANIA

HOUSE RESOLUTION

No. 449 Session of
2013

INTRODUCED BY PARKER, MILLARD, BISHOP, KIRKLAND, SONNEY, KINSEY,
SCHLOSSBERG, P. DALEY, DAVIS, J. HARRIS, VEREB, LUCAS,
PICKETT, KIM, CALTAGIRONE, READSHAW, DIGIROLAMO, MCNEILL,
GODSHALL, BAKER, MCCARTER, WHEATLEY, DAY, DONATUCCI,
PASHINSKI, NEILSON, LONGIETTI, COHEN, BRIGGS, ROZZI, MAJOR,
GRELL, ROSS, BROWNLEE, CLAY, MURT, YOUNGBLOOD, GINGRICH,
MARSICO, MIRABITO AND FLECK, SEPTEMBER 23, 2013

INTRODUCED AS NONCONTROVERSIAL RESOLUTION UNDER RULE 35,
SEPTEMBER 23, 2013

A RESOLUTION

1 Designating the month of September 2013 as "Sickle Cell Disease
2 Awareness Month" in Pennsylvania.

3 WHEREAS, Sickle cell disease (SCD) is a group of inherited
4 blood disorders that causes normally round red blood cells to
5 take on a sickle shape, which impedes the cells' ability to
6 travel throughout the body to deliver vital oxygen; and

7 WHEREAS, The restricted oxygen supply due to SCD can cause
8 severe pain, organ damage, serious infections and stroke; and

9 WHEREAS, SCD can be detected by using a simple blood test;
10 and

11 WHEREAS, Treatment for SCD is contingent on the symptoms
12 experienced by each individual and the severity of the symptoms
13 varies from person to person; and

14 WHEREAS, SCD can be cured through bone marrow or stem cell
15 transplant, however, because of the risks, this procedure is

1 only performed in limited cases; and

2 WHEREAS, The most common types of SCD are HbSS, (sickle cell
3 anemia), HbSC (hemoglobin C disease) and Hbs beta thalassemia;
4 and

5 WHEREAS, In the United States, approximately 90,000 to
6 100,000 people are afflicted with SCD; and

7 WHEREAS, African Americans are disproportionately affected by
8 SCD with about 1 in 500 suffering from the disease; and

9 WHEREAS, One in 36,000 Hispanic Americans are also affected
10 by SCD; and

11 WHEREAS, Millions of people throughout the world suffer from
12 SCD, especially those of sub-Saharan African, Hispanic, Middle
13 Eastern, Asian, Indian and Mediterranean origin; and

14 WHEREAS, The month of September has been designated Sickle
15 Cell Disease Awareness Month in the United States; therefore be
16 it

17 RESOLVED, That the House of Representatives designate the
18 month of September 2013 as "Sickle Cell Disease Awareness Month"
19 in Pennsylvania.