

THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF PENNSYLVANIA

HOUSE RESOLUTION

No. 621 Session of 2014

INTRODUCED BY HANNA, KOTIK, V. BROWN, BIZZARRO, SONNEY,
CALTAGIRONE, PAINTER, COHEN, BROWNLEE, BISHOP, SCHLOSSBERG,
O'BRIEN, DONATUCCI, KINSEY, KIRKLAND, ROSS, MIRABITO, KORTZ,
THOMAS, BAKER, HENNESSEY, DIGIROLAMO, GINGRICH, LUCAS,
READSHAW, KIM, FARINA, MILLARD, HEFFLEY, MAHONEY, LONGIETTI,
ROCK, CLAY, CAUSER, C. HARRIS, HARHART, YOUNGBLOOD, MAJOR,
MCNEILL, GOODMAN, KAVULICH, EVERETT, D. COSTA, GROVE,
MARSICO, MURT AND WATSON, JANUARY 27, 2014

INTRODUCED AS NONCONTROVERSIAL RESOLUTION UNDER RULE 35,
JANUARY 27, 2014

A RESOLUTION

1 Designating February 8, 2014, 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;

1 and

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

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

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

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

14 RESOLVED, That the House of Representatives of the
15 Commonwealth of Pennsylvania designate February 8, 2014, as
16 "Peripartum Cardiomyopathy Awareness Day" in Pennsylvania and
17 urge all residents to recognize that peripartum cardiomyopathy
18 is a serious women's health threat; and be it further

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

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

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