
THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF PENNSYLVANIA

HOUSE RESOLUTION

No. 721 Session of
2014

INTRODUCED BY WHEATLEY, KOTIK, THOMAS, CALTAGIRONE, COHEN,
BISHOP, DIGIROLAMO, SCHLOSSBERG, CLAY, HARHART, YOUNGBLOOD,
READSHAW, MILLARD, KINSEY, PARKER, KORTZ, O'BRIEN, ROEBUCK,
GAINNEY, BROWNLEE, KIRKLAND, GIBBONS, MCNEILL, LUCAS,
MIRABITO, GROVE, FLECK, MARSICO, GOODMAN, MAJOR, MAHONEY,
GINGRICH, D. COSTA AND WATSON, MARCH 18, 2014

INTRODUCED AS NONCONTROVERSIAL RESOLUTION UNDER RULE 35,
MARCH 18, 2014

A RESOLUTION

1 Recognizing April 13 through 19, 2014, as "National Minority
2 Cancer Awareness Week" in Pennsylvania.

3 WHEREAS, The National Cancer Institute defines cancer health
4 disparities as the difference in the incidence, prevalence,
5 mortality and burden of cancer and adverse related conditions
6 that exist among specific population groups in the United
7 States; and

8 WHEREAS, Cancer affects different populations differently,
9 and minority groups in the United States continue to bear a
10 greater cancer burden than nonminorities; and

11 WHEREAS, Overall, minority populations have a higher
12 incidence of cancer and a higher death rate; and

13 WHEREAS, According to the American Society of Clinical
14 Oncology (ASCO), African Americans are less likely than
15 Caucasians to survive five years after being diagnosed with most

1 forms of cancer, at any stage of diagnosis; and

2 WHEREAS, According to the American Cancer Society, cancer is
3 the leading cause of death for Hispanics in the United States,
4 accounting for 21% of all deaths and 15% of deaths in children;
5 and

6 WHEREAS, According to the ASCO, stomach cancer incidence
7 rates are at least 70% higher in Hispanic men than in non-
8 Hispanic Caucasian men and more than double for Hispanic women
9 than non-Hispanic Caucasian women; and

10 WHEREAS, According to the Intercultural Cancer Council,
11 Native American/Alaskan Natives, as compared to Caucasians, are
12 more threatened by less common cancers, such as cancers of the
13 liver, kidney, stomach, gallbladder and cervix; and

14 WHEREAS, According to the United States Department of Health
15 and Human Services, Office of Minority Health, Pacific
16 Islanders/ Native Hawaiians are 30% more likely to be diagnosed
17 with cancer, as compared to non-Hispanic Caucasians; and

18 WHEREAS, Diagnosis of cancer is often delayed in minorities
19 for a variety of reasons, including low screening rates and
20 access to care; and

21 WHEREAS, Getting regular cancer screening tests, controlling
22 weight, exercising regularly, maintaining a healthy diet and
23 quitting smoking are all manageable steps to help lower the risk
24 of developing cancer; therefore be it

25 RESLOVED, That the House of Representatives recognize April
26 13 through 19, 2014, as "National Minority Cancer Awareness
27 Week" in Pennsylvania.