
THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF PENNSYLVANIA

HOUSE RESOLUTION

No. 726 Session of
2014

INTRODUCED BY OBERLANDER, ADOLPH, BAKER, BENNINGHOFF, BISHOP, BIZZARRO, BOBACK, V. BROWN, BROWNLEE, CALTAGIRONE, CAUSER, CLYMER, COHEN, D. COSTA, SCHLEGEL CULVER, CUTLER, DeLUCA, DENLINGER, DIGIROLAMO, EVERETT, FARINA, FLECK, FLYNN, FREEMAN, GILLEN, GINGRICH, GODSHALL, GOODMAN, GRELL, GROVE, HARHART, C. HARRIS, HEFFLEY, HENNESSEY, JAMES, KAVULICH, M. K. KELLER, KILLION, KIM, KINSEY, KIRKLAND, KNOWLES, KORTZ, KULA, LONGIETTI, LUCAS, MAHONEY, MAJOR, MARSICO, MCNEILL, MILLARD, MILNE, MIRABITO, MURT, MUSTIO, O'BRIEN, PAINTER, PARKER, PICKETT, RAPP, READSHAW, ROCK, ROSS, SCHLOSSBERG, SONNEY, STERN, SWANGER, THOMAS, VEREB, WATSON AND YOUNGBLOOD, MARCH 19, 2014

INTRODUCED AS NONCONTROVERSIAL RESOLUTION UNDER RULE 35,
MARCH 19, 2014

A RESOLUTION

1 Designating April 2014 as "Esophageal Cancer Awareness and
2 Prevention Month" in Pennsylvania.

3 WHEREAS, It is estimated that more than 17,000 people will be
4 diagnosed with esophageal cancer in the United States in 2014,
5 and more than 15,000 will die from the disease; and

6 WHEREAS, Esophageal cancer is among the deadliest cancers and
7 fewer than one in five patients will survive for five years; and

8 WHEREAS, Esophageal cancer often is not detected and
9 diagnosed until the disease has reached the later stages, and
10 treatment is often radical, likely to cause complications and
11 the outcomes are poor; and

12 WHEREAS, One of the most common causes of esophageal cancer

1 is heartburn or gastroesophageal reflux disease (GERD), which is
2 viewed by many sufferers as an acceptable condition of life, and
3 GERD can lead to Barrett's Esophagus, which results in as much
4 as a 125-fold increase in a person's chance to develop
5 esophageal cancer; and

6 WHEREAS, With monitoring and treatment of GERD, the potential
7 for long-term irreversible damage leading to esophageal cancer
8 can be avoided; and

9 WHEREAS, Esophageal cancer can even occur without reflux
10 symptoms, history of smoking or excessive alcohol use; and

11 WHEREAS, Esophageal cancer is among the cancers that receive
12 the least amount of Federal medical research funding; and

13 WHEREAS, The health and well-being of all Pennsylvanians will
14 be enhanced by improving esophageal cancer awareness, prevention
15 and increased research funding into the early detection and
16 treatment strategies; therefore be it

17 RESOLVED, That the House of Representatives designate April
18 2014 as "Esophageal Cancer Awareness and Prevention Month" in
19 Pennsylvania and encourage citizens to take steps to prevent
20 this disease through treatment of gastroesophageal reflux.