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THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF PENNSYLVANIA

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HOUSE RESOLUTION

No. 956 Session of  
2014

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INTRODUCED BY BENNINGHOFF, ADOLPH, AUMENT, BAKER, BISHOP,  
BOBACK, BRIGGS, BROOKS, R. BROWN, V. BROWN, BROWNLEE,  
CALTAGIRONE, CAUSER, CLYMER, COHEN, CORBIN, D. COSTA,  
DIGIROLAMO, EMRICK, EVERETT, FARINA, FRANKEL, FREEMAN,  
GABLER, GIBBONS, GINGRICH, GOODMAN, GREINER, GRELL, GROVE,  
HAHN, C. HARRIS, J. HARRIS, HENNESSEY, HICKERNELL, JAMES,  
KAUFFMAN, KAVULICH, M. K. KELLER, KINSEY, KIRKLAND, KNOWLES,  
KORTZ, LONGIETTI, LUCAS, MAHONEY, MAJOR, MARSICO, McCARTER,  
McNEILL, MENTZER, MICOZZIE, MILLARD, R. MILLER, MILNE,  
MIRABITO, MUNDY, MURT, NEUMAN, O'BRIEN, O'NEILL, PASHINSKI,  
PAYNE, PEIFER, PICKETT, PYLE, RAPP, READSHAW, REED, REGAN,  
ROCK, ROSS, ROZZI, SABATINA, SAYLOR, SCAVELLO, SCHLOSSBERG,  
SONNEY, STERN, SWANGER, THOMAS, TOEPEL, TOPPER, TURZAI,  
VEREB, WATSON, GODSHALL, HARHART, BARRAR, YOUNGBLOOD, DEAN,  
RAVENSTAHL, MUSTIO, B. BOYLE, SAINATO AND DAVIDSON,  
AUGUST 5, 2014

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INTRODUCED AS NONCONTROVERSIAL RESOLUTION UNDER RULE 35,  
AUGUST 5, 2014

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A RESOLUTION

1 Designating the month of September 2014 as "Childhood Cancer  
2 Awareness Month" in Pennsylvania, honoring those young people  
3 who have lost their lives to childhood cancer, expressing  
4 gratitude to the doctors and nurses who provide special care  
5 to patients and families affected by childhood cancer, and  
6 encouraging all citizens to join the fight against childhood  
7 cancer in this Commonwealth.

8 WHEREAS, Childhood cancers make up less than 1% of all  
9 cancers diagnosed each year and childhood cancer rates have been  
10 rising slightly for the past few decades; and

11 WHEREAS, Childhood cancer is the second leading cause of  
12 death in children under the age of 15, exceeded only by  
13 accidents, and about 1,350 children are expected to die of

1 cancer in 2014; and

2 WHEREAS, The American Cancer Society estimates that about  
3 10,450 children in the United States under the age of 15 will be  
4 diagnosed with cancer in 2014; and

5 WHEREAS, The potential years of life lost to childhood cancer  
6 and the potential years of life saved by treatment exceed all  
7 other cancers with the exception of breast cancer; and

8 WHEREAS, Most children cannot be treated at a local hospital,  
9 and families must face the disruption of moving for treatment at  
10 a regional cancer center; and

11 WHEREAS, Because of major treatment advances in recent  
12 decades, more than 80% of children with cancer now survive 5  
13 years or more; and

14 WHEREAS, This is a huge increase since the mid-1970s, when  
15 the 5-year survival rate was less than 60%; and

16 WHEREAS, Survival rates vary depending on the type of cancer  
17 and other factors; and

18 WHEREAS, There is significant progress that still must be  
19 made with regard to childhood cancer treatment because there are  
20 many types of childhood cancer, and some varieties with lower  
21 survival rates are still very difficult to treat; and

22 WHEREAS, Pennsylvania is a leader in the fight against and  
23 treatment of childhood cancer with six Children's Oncology Group  
24 hospitals, St. Christopher's Hospital for Children, The  
25 Children's Hospital of Philadelphia, Geisinger Medical Center,  
26 Lehigh Valley Hospital - Muhlenburg, Hershey Medical Center and  
27 Children's Hospital of Pittsburgh; and

28 WHEREAS, Two of only ten institutions in the Pediatric Brain  
29 Tumor Consortium are in Pennsylvania, The Children's Hospital of  
30 Philadelphia and Children's Hospital of Pittsburgh, and Penn

1 State Hershey Children's Hospital is one of only 11 institutions  
2 nationwide in the Pediatric Oncology Experimental Therapeutic  
3 Consortium; therefore be it

4 RESOLVED, That the House of Representatives designate the  
5 month of September 2014 as "Childhood Cancer Awareness Month" in  
6 Pennsylvania; and be it further

7 RESOLVED, That the House of Representatives honor those young  
8 people who have lost their lives to childhood cancer, express  
9 gratitude to the doctors and nurses who provide special care to  
10 patients and families affected by childhood cancer, and  
11 encourage all citizens to join the fight against childhood  
12 cancer in this Commonwealth.