
THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF PENNSYLVANIA

HOUSE RESOLUTION

No. 1053 Session of
2014

INTRODUCED BY BAKER, BROWNLEE, MIRABITO, KINSEY, PICKETT, LUCAS,
COHEN, DIGIROLAMO, V. BROWN, READSHAW, STERN, O'NEILL,
CALTAGIRONE, WHITE, HENNESSEY, LONGIETTI, SONNEY, MILLARD,
TOOHIL, DAVIS, ROSS, MAHONEY, GOODMAN, YOUNGBLOOD, MURT,
McCARTER, FARINA, DENLINGER, ROCK, MILNE, GILLEN, MARSICO,
GRELL AND QUINN, OCTOBER 3, 2014

INTRODUCED AS NONCONTROVERSIAL RESOLUTION UNDER RULE 35,
OCTOBER 3, 2014

A RESOLUTION

1 Designating the month of October 2014 as "Smith-Magenis Syndrome
2 Awareness Month" in Pennsylvania.

3 WHEREAS, Smith-Magenis syndrome (SMS) is a chromosomal
4 disorder characterized by a recognizable pattern of physical,
5 behavioral and developmental features; and

6 WHEREAS, Most individuals with SMS are born with a small
7 deletion of one member of their 17th pair of chromosomes; and

8 WHEREAS, It is the lack of this specific section, known as
9 17p11.2, which causes a child to develop the features of SMS;
10 and

11 WHEREAS, The most common features of SMS include a
12 characteristic, yet subtle, facial appearance, infant feeding
13 problems, low muscle tone, developmental delays, variable levels
14 of intellectual disability, early speech delays, middle ear
15 problems, skeletal anomalies and decreased sensitivity to pain;

1 and

2 WHEREAS, The syndrome also includes a distinct pattern of
3 neurobehavioral features characterized by chronic sleep
4 disturbances, hyperactivity, sudden mood changes and self-
5 injurious behaviors; and

6 WHEREAS, It is estimated that SMS occurs in 1 out of 25,000
7 births in the United States; and

8 WHEREAS, SMS is widely under diagnosed, but as awareness of
9 it increases, the number of people identified grows every year;
10 and

11 WHEREAS, Most people diagnosed with SMS have been identified
12 since 1995 as a result of improved laboratory techniques that
13 allow the accurate detection of this chromosomal deletion; and

14 WHEREAS, Early intervention and appropriate speech, physical
15 and occupational therapies enable people with SMS to adapt and
16 thrive; and

17 WHEREAS, Ongoing research offers the hope of new discoveries
18 that will enable people affected by this rare condition to live
19 more independent lives; therefore be it

20 RESOLVED, That the House of Representatives designate the
21 month of October 2014 as "Smith-Magenis Syndrome Awareness
22 Month" in Pennsylvania and call upon all residents of this
23 Commonwealth to observe this month by participating in
24 activities to raise awareness of Smith-Magenis syndrome.