
THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF PENNSYLVANIA

SENATE RESOLUTION

No. 180 Session of
2013

INTRODUCED BY BROWNE, JUNE 28, 2013

INTRODUCED AND ADOPTED, JUNE 28, 2013

A RESOLUTION

1 Designating September 25, 2013, as "International Ataxia
2 Awareness Day" in Pennsylvania.

3 WHEREAS, The National Ataxia Foundation strives to meet the
4 goals of:

5 (1) Location of patients and persons at risk. The
6 National Ataxia Foundation encourages a complete neurological
7 examination to make early and correct diagnosis.

8 (2) Increased awareness about ataxia. The National
9 Ataxia Foundation assures that accurate information about
10 ataxia will be available through a variety of educational
11 programs for physicians, allied health professionals and the
12 public.

13 (3) Prevention of the spread of these disorders. The
14 National Ataxia Foundation encourages genetic counseling to
15 help affected individuals and families understand the
16 hereditary nature of the illness.

17 (4) Research. In addition to its own research efforts,
18 the National Ataxia Foundation supports those research

1 projects that are designed to better understand the pathology
2 and causes of the ataxias, or to institute new treatments
3 based upon scientific data. The National Ataxia Foundation
4 helps to coordinate research efforts into the causes and
5 early detection of ataxia through existing centers throughout
6 the world;

7 and

8 WHEREAS, An estimated 150,000 individuals are affected by
9 hereditary and sporadic ataxia in the United States; and

10 WHEREAS, Ataxia is an often fatal degenerative neurological
11 disorder that affects balance, coordination and speech; and

12 WHEREAS, Ataxia can strike anyone at any time, without regard
13 to age, gender, race or creed; and

14 WHEREAS, There is no known cure for ataxia; the only defense
15 is research and prevention through education; therefore be it

16 RESOLVED, That the Senate designate September 25, 2013, as
17 "International Ataxia Awareness Day" in Pennsylvania and urge
18 all citizens to honor and support those individuals with ataxia
19 and their caregivers, in the hope that a cure will soon be
20 found.