
THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF PENNSYLVANIA

SENATE RESOLUTION

No. 417 Session of
2014

INTRODUCED BY TARTAGLIONE, FERLO, KITCHEN, BREWSTER, BAKER,
TEPLITZ, ERICKSON, WASHINGTON, BROWNE, WOZNIAK, GREENLEAF,
STACK, FONTANA, BRUBAKER, VULAKOVICH, KASUNIC, SMITH, WHITE,
RAFFERTY, HUTCHINSON, ALLOWAY, SCHWANK, COSTA, HUGHES,
SOLOBAY AND FARNESE, JUNE 25, 2014

INTRODUCED AND ADOPTED, JUNE 25, 2014

A RESOLUTION

1 Recognizing the month of September 2014 as "National Spinal Cord
2 Injury Awareness Month" in Pennsylvania.

3 WHEREAS, Twelve thousand spine-related injuries occur in the
4 United States each year; and

5 WHEREAS, More than 300,000 Americans, including 40,000
6 veterans, have spine-related injuries; and

7 WHEREAS, Spinal cord injuries often result in paralysis of
8 either the lower body, paraplegia, or the upper and lower body,
9 quadriplegia, and often can cause respiratory illness, sleep
10 apnea, a form of high blood pressure known as autonomic
11 dysreflexia, inability to regulate body temperature, chronic
12 pain, and impaired use of bladder, bowel and reproductive
13 organs; and

14 WHEREAS, Spinal cord injury may also increase a person's risk
15 for osteoporosis, obesity, high cholesterol and diabetes,
16 therefore making physical activity especially important to the

1 physical and emotional well-being of persons with spinal cord
2 injuries; and

3 WHEREAS, Every 48 minutes another person in the United States
4 becomes paralyzed from a spinal cord injury; and

5 WHEREAS, The Senate affirms the necessity of addressing
6 spinal cord-related injuries, including the particular
7 challenges of spinal cord injury care and recovery for persons
8 with new or existing injuries and their loved ones and
9 caregivers; and

10 WHEREAS, The Senate further notes the significance of
11 ensuring access to related resources and benefits, advancing
12 medical research and disseminating public education and
13 outreach; and

14 WHEREAS, National Spinal Cord Injury Awareness Month provides
15 insight into the medical complications and challenges of daily
16 living arising from spinal cord injury and celebrates the
17 achievement of rehabilitation goals; and

18 WHEREAS, The Department of Veterans Affairs, a leading
19 advocate of National Spinal Cord Injury Awareness Month, offers
20 inpatient, outpatient, home care and respite care services, as
21 well as specialty health care programs for persons living with a
22 spinal cord injury and facilitates the progress of related
23 research through its network of specialized care centers and
24 primary care teams; and

25 WHEREAS, The Buoniconti Fund, in furtherance of its work
26 addressing spinal cord injury awareness and its national and
27 international objectives related to curing paralysis, is urging
28 all persons in our communities to support its largest campaign;
29 therefore be it

30 RESOLVED, That the Senate recognize the month of September

1 2014 as "National Spinal Cord Injury Awareness Month" in
2 Pennsylvania.