

THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF PENNSYLVANIA

HOUSE RESOLUTION

No. 54 Session of 2015

INTRODUCED BY BOBACK, KIM, WHEELAND, THOMAS, MILLARD, V. BROWN, DIGIROLAMO, LONGIETTI, DUSH, SONNEY, FLYNN, SCHLOSSBERG, SCHWEYER, C. PARKER, COHEN, VEREB, MACKENZIE, A. HARRIS, KAUFFMAN, BARRAR, FARINA, BROWNLEE, SNYDER, MATZIE, BAKER, KILLION, DONATUCCI, D. COSTA, PICKETT, KINSEY, McCARTER, CALTAGIRONE, GRELL, HARHART, ROSS, READSHAW, KORTZ, MAHONEY, MAJOR, PEIFER, GOODMAN AND WATSON, FEBRUARY 2, 2015

INTRODUCED AS NONCONTROVERSIAL RESOLUTION UNDER RULE 35, FEBRUARY 2, 2015

A RESOLUTION

1 Designating February 7 through 14, 2015, as "Congenital Heart
2 Defect Awareness Week" in Pennsylvania.

3 WHEREAS, Congenital heart defects are the most frequently
4 occurring birth defect and the leading cause of birth defect-
5 related deaths worldwide; and

6 WHEREAS, More than one million families across this nation
7 are facing the challenges and hardships of raising children with
8 congenital heart defects; and

9 WHEREAS, Every year 40,000 babies are born in the United
10 States with congenital heart defects; and

11 WHEREAS, Some congenital heart defects are not diagnosed
12 until months or years after birth; and

13 WHEREAS, Undiagnosed congenital heart conditions cause many
14 cases of sudden cardiac death in young athletes; and

15 WHEREAS, Despite these statistics, newborns and young

1 athletes are not routinely screened for congenital heart
2 defects; and

3 WHEREAS, A disproportionately small amount of funding is
4 available for congenital heart defect research and support; and

5 WHEREAS, Congenital Heart Defect Awareness Week provides an
6 opportunity for families whose lives have been affected to
7 celebrate life and to remember loved ones lost, to honor
8 dedicated health professionals and to meet others and know they
9 are not alone; and

10 WHEREAS, Establishment of Congenital Heart Defect Awareness
11 Week will also provide the opportunity to share experience and
12 information with the public and the media in order to raise
13 public awareness about congenital heart defects; therefore be it

14 RESOLVED, That the House of Representatives designate
15 February 7 through 14, 2015, as "Congenital Heart Defect
16 Awareness Week" in Pennsylvania; and be it further

17 RESOLVED, That the House of Representatives encourage all
18 residents to increase awareness, education and services for
19 congenital heart defects each year which affect thousands of
20 babies in Pennsylvania.