
THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF PENNSYLVANIA

HOUSE RESOLUTION

No. 121 Session of
2015

INTRODUCED BY MARSHALL, O'NEILL, RAPP, BAKER, BARRAR,
BENNINGHOFF, V. BROWN, BROWNLEE, COHEN, CONKLIN, D. COSTA,
CUTLER, DEASY, DeLUCA, DiGIROLAMO, DONATUCCI, DUSH, FARINA,
FLYNN, FREEMAN, GABLER, GIBBONS, GILLEN, GODSHALL, GOODMAN,
GREINER, GRELL, HAHN, HARHART, A. HARRIS, J. HARRIS, HELM,
KAUFFMAN, KILLION, KIM, KINSEY, KIRKLAND, KNOWLES, KORTZ,
KOTIK, LONGIETTI, MACKENZIE, MAJOR, MARSICO, MATZIE,
McCARTER, MENTZER, MILLARD, MURT, MUSTIO, OBERLANDER,
C. PARKER, PICKETT, READSHAW, ROSS, SAINATO, SAMUELSON,
SCHLOSSBERG, SCHWEYER, SONNEY, STURLA, THOMAS, VEREB, WATSON
AND WHEELAND, FEBRUARY 12, 2015

INTRODUCED AS NONCONTROVERSIAL RESOLUTION UNDER RULE 35,
FEBRUARY 12, 2015

A RESOLUTION

1 Recognizing March 21, 2015, as "World Down Syndrome Day" in
2 Pennsylvania.

3 WHEREAS, Down syndrome is a genetic condition that occurs in
4 approximately one in every 800 births; and

5 WHEREAS, There are more than 400,000 people of various
6 ethnic, religious and socioeconomic groups with Down syndrome
7 living in the United States; and

8 WHEREAS, The most common form of Down syndrome, trisomy 21,
9 is due to an error in cell division, just prior to or during
10 conception, with the 21st chromosome dividing in three instead
11 of two, resulting in an individual being born with 47 instead of
12 46 chromosomes in each cell; and

13 WHEREAS, While people with Down syndrome are at a higher risk

1 for various conditions, such as congenital heart defects,
2 respiratory problems and thyroid issues, advances in treatments
3 enable them to lead healthy lives; and

4 WHEREAS, Life expectancy for people with Down syndrome has
5 increased from 25 years of age in 1983 to 60 years of age today;
6 and

7 WHEREAS, Early intervention, appropriate speech, physical and
8 occupational therapies and quality education programs enable
9 people with Down syndrome to adapt and thrive; and

10 WHEREAS, The date for World Down Syndrome Day, the 21st day
11 of the third month of the year, was selected to signify the
12 uniqueness of the triplication of the 21st chromosome; therefore
13 be it

14 RESOLVED, That the House of Representatives recognize March
15 21, 2015, as "World Down Syndrome Day" in Pennsylvania,
16 recognizing the positive contributions that people with Down
17 syndrome and their families make to our communities in
18 Pennsylvania, the United States and across the globe.