
THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF PENNSYLVANIA

HOUSE RESOLUTION

No. 426 Session of
2015

INTRODUCED BY CORBIN, SCHLOSSBERG, THOMAS, KIRKLAND, ADOLPH,
STAATS, KINSEY, ROEBUCK, BAKER, DIGIROLAMO, ROZZI, MILLARD,
YOUNGBLOOD, MURT, WARD, COHEN, BURNS, READSHAW, KILLION,
J. HARRIS, SNYDER AND ROSS, JULY 21, 2015

INTRODUCED AS NONCONTROVERSIAL RESOLUTION UNDER RULE 35,
JULY 21, 2015

A RESOLUTION

1 Recognizing the month of August 2015 as "National Immunization
2 Awareness Month."

3 WHEREAS, The United States eradicated smallpox and polio
4 through immunization, one of the most significant public health
5 achievements of the 20th Century; and

6 WHEREAS, With advances in vaccine technology, the incidence
7 of measles, pertussis and diphtheria in the United States has
8 fallen by more than 98%; and

9 WHEREAS, The United States offers further protection from
10 disease and public health emergencies, vaccinating against
11 hepatitis A and B, influenza, human papillomavirus and cervical
12 cancer, meningococcal and pneumococcal diseases, mumps, rabies,
13 shingles, smallpox, tetanus, tuberculosis, typhoid fever,
14 varicella and yellow fever; and

15 WHEREAS, Vaccine-preventable diseases cause 1.7 million
16 deaths among children worldwide each year; and

1 WHEREAS, Only 77% of children in the United States have
2 received all of the recommended vaccinations; and

3 WHEREAS, Vaccine-preventable diseases cause 50,000 deaths
4 among adults in the United States each year; and

5 WHEREAS, Pneumonia and influenza are the fifth leading cause
6 of death among adults older than 65 years of age, but fewer than
7 70% of those persons are appropriately vaccinated; and

8 WHEREAS, The House of Representatives reaffirms our nation's
9 continuing commitment to public education relating to
10 immunization and to maintenance of strong immunization programs
11 for people of all ages within our health care systems; and

12 WHEREAS, The House of Representatives salutes health care
13 professionals and researchers who have facilitated the success
14 of immunizations in eradicating certain diseases and drastically
15 decreasing other disease incidence rates; and

16 WHEREAS, The House of Representatives, in keeping with the
17 goals and ideals of "National Immunization Awareness Month,"
18 encourages individuals to receive recommended immunizations and
19 seeks increased community awareness of the benefits of
20 immunization; and

21 WHEREAS, August is an ideal month for children to receive
22 immunizations required for school and an appropriate time for
23 this national health observance; therefore be it

24 RESOLVED, That the House of Representatives recognize the
25 month of August 2015 as "National Immunization Awareness Month."