

THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF PENNSYLVANIA

HOUSE RESOLUTION

No. 545 Session of 2015

INTRODUCED BY MATZIE, READSHAW, KAUFFMAN, MAHONEY, GIBBONS, SNYDER, FRANKEL, BAKER, SCHWEYER, KIRKLAND, KIM, RAVENSTAHL, DeLUCA, BENNINGHOFF, WHEELAND, MUSTIO, O'BRIEN, BISHOP, PICKETT, COHEN, STURLA, VEREB, FARINA, DONATUCCI, HARHART, CUTLER, SAYLOR, FLYNN, LONGIETTI, SONNEY, DUSH, MAJOR, DiGIROLAMO, KNOWLES, MARSHALL, DUNBAR, SCHLOSSBERG, DRISCOLL, PASHINSKI, MILLARD, THOMAS, O'NEILL, CALTAGIRONE, HAHN, C. PARKER, CAUSER, ROSS, CONKLIN, McCARTER, HARKINS, V. BROWN, D. COSTA, MARSICO, A. HARRIS, R. BROWN, KAVULICH, KINSEY, DEASY, KOTIK, TALLMAN, KORTZ, GOODMAN, GABLER, WATSON, GILLEN AND DELOZIER, OCTOBER 19, 2015

INTRODUCED AS NONCONTROVERSIAL RESOLUTION UNDER RULE 35, OCTOBER 19, 2015

A RESOLUTION

1 Designating the month of November 2015 as "Pancreatic Cancer
2 Awareness Month" in Pennsylvania.

3 WHEREAS, An estimated 39,590 people die from pancreatic
4 cancer annually; and

5 WHEREAS, Pancreatic cancer is one of the deadliest cancers
6 and is the fourth leading cause of cancer deaths in the United
7 States; and

8 WHEREAS, When symptoms of pancreatic cancer present
9 themselves, it is usually too late for an optimistic prognosis
10 and 74% of pancreatic cancer patients die within the first year
11 of their diagnoses while 94% of pancreatic cancer patients die
12 within five years; and

13 WHEREAS, Of all the racial/ethnic groups in the United

1 States, African Americans have the highest incidence of
2 pancreatic cancer, between 34% and 70% higher than the other
3 groups; and

4 WHEREAS, Approximately 2,000 deaths occur annually in
5 Pennsylvania as a result of the disease; and

6 WHEREAS, There is no cure for pancreatic cancer and there
7 have been no significant improvements in survival rates in the
8 last 40 years;

9 WHEREAS, The Federal Government invests significantly less
10 money in pancreatic cancer research than it does in any of the
11 other leading cancer killers; and

12 WHEREAS, Pancreatic cancer research constitutes approximately
13 2% of the National Cancer Institute's Federal research funding,
14 a figure far too low given the severity of the disease, its
15 mortality rate and how little is known about how to eradicate
16 it; and

17 WHEREAS, The Pancreatic Cancer Action Network is the first
18 and only national patient advocacy organization that serves the
19 pancreatic cancer community in Pennsylvania and nationwide by
20 focusing its efforts on public policy, research funding, patient
21 services and public awareness and education related to
22 developing effective treatments and a cure for pancreatic
23 cancer; and

24 WHEREAS, The Pancreatic Cancer Action Network supports
25 patients currently battling pancreatic cancer, as well as the
26 families of those who have lost their lives to the disease, and
27 is committed to nothing less than a cure; and

28 WHEREAS, The good health and well-being of the residents of
29 this Commonwealth are enhanced as a direct result of increased
30 awareness about pancreatic cancer and research in early

1 detection, causes and effective treatments; therefore be it
2 RESOLVED, That the House of Representatives designate the
3 month of November 2015 as "Pancreatic Cancer Awareness Month" in
4 Pennsylvania.