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THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF PENNSYLVANIA

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# HOUSE RESOLUTION

No. 547 Session of  
2015

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INTRODUCED BY ROAE, DONATUCCI, HENNESSEY, DUSH, SONNEY, COHEN,  
BAKER, DRISCOLL, THOMAS, MILLARD, PICKETT, CALTAGIRONE,  
READSHAW, DIGIROLAMO, MASSER, PHILLIPS-HILL, ROSS, MILNE,  
MARSICO, MAJOR, GROVE, FARINA, GILLEN, GINGRICH, SCHLEGEL  
CULVER, WATSON, BRADFORD AND SCHEMEL, OCTOBER 19, 2015

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

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## A RESOLUTION

1 Designating November 3, 2015, as "Color the World Orange Day"  
2 for reflex sympathetic dystrophy awareness in Pennsylvania.

3 WHEREAS, Reflex sympathetic dystrophy (RSD), also known as  
4 complex regional pain syndrome, is a rare disorder of the  
5 sympathetic nervous system that is characterized by chronic and  
6 severe pain; and

7 WHEREAS, RSD usually affects one of the extremities of the  
8 body, such as an arm, leg, hand or foot, although pain may  
9 spread to a wider area, as in the case of pain spreading from a  
10 finger to the entire arm or to the opposite extremity, as in the  
11 case of pain spreading from the left arm to the right arm; and

12 WHEREAS, The primary symptom of RSD is intense, continuous  
13 pain, with other symptoms including burning pain, increased skin  
14 sensitivity, changes in skin temperature that may be warmer or  
15 cooler than the opposing extremity, changes in skin color or  
16 texture, changes in nail and hair growth patterns, stiffness and

1 swelling in affected joints and the decreased ability to move  
2 the affected extremity or coordinate muscle movement; and

3 WHEREAS, Emotional stress may cause RSD symptoms to worsen;  
4 and

5 WHEREAS, Numerous triggers for RSD exist, including injury or  
6 trauma, surgery, degenerative arthritis of the neck, shoulder  
7 problems, heart disease, stroke, diabetes, cancer, infection,  
8 brain diseases, thyroid disorders, carpal tunnel, shingles and  
9 certain medications, although in an estimated one-third of  
10 patients with RSD, there is no associated trigger; and

11 WHEREAS, It is believed that millions of Americans may  
12 experience the debilitating symptoms of RSD; and

13 WHEREAS, Research suggests that RSD can occur in males and  
14 females at any age and within any demographic; and

15 WHEREAS, Public awareness of RSD can be furthered through the  
16 recognition of "Color the World Orange Day," when individuals  
17 are encouraged to wear orange and post pictures to social media,  
18 as well as to plan events and activities in the community, at  
19 school and at home around this orange theme; therefore be it

20 RESOLVED, That the House of Representatives designate  
21 November 3, 2015, as "Color the World Orange Day" for reflex  
22 sympathetic dystrophy awareness in Pennsylvania.