

THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF PENNSYLVANIA

# HOUSE RESOLUTION

No. 817 Session of  
2015

INTRODUCED BY EMRICK, KIRKLAND, READSHAW, SONNEY, DONATUCCI,  
DUSH, BRIGGS, THOMAS, COHEN, VEREB, TOOHL, LEWIS, FARINA,  
MACKENZIE, KINSEY, MURT, LONGIETTI, HENNESSEY, BAKER,  
V. BROWN, HEFFLEY, MILLARD, D. COSTA, KILLION, DIGIROLAMO,  
WATSON, MAHONEY, ROSS, WARD, WHEELAND, PAYNE, BOBACK,  
R. BROWN, MARSICO, REESE, PEIFER, HAHN, PHILLIPS-HILL,  
HARHART, GOODMAN, OBERLANDER, EVERETT, MILNE, SCHLEGEL  
CULVER, MAJOR, GILLEN AND CALTAGIRONE, APRIL 19, 2016

INTRODUCED AS NONCONTROVERSIAL RESOLUTION UNDER RULE 35,  
APRIL 19, 2016

## A RESOLUTION

1 Designating the month of May 2016 as "Preeclampsia Awareness  
2 Month" in Pennsylvania.

3 WHEREAS, Preeclampsia is a dangerous condition of pregnancy  
4 that can, in its severest form, lead to maternal and infant  
5 mortality or premature birth with significant health risks for  
6 the mother and the baby; and

7 WHEREAS, Preeclampsia includes HELLP syndrome, named for its  
8 characteristics of hemolysis, elevated liver enzymes and low  
9 platelet count, and eclampsia, which is associated with  
10 pregnancy-related seizure activity; and

11 WHEREAS, As many as 320,000 cases of preeclampsia are  
12 diagnosed in the United States every year, with approximately  
13 25% resulting in severe, life-threatening consequences to a  
14 pregnant woman and her baby; and

1       WHEREAS, Public education on signs and symptoms of  
2   preeclampsia, HELLP syndrome and eclampsia can help women  
3   recognize these conditions and seek appropriate medical care;  
4   and

5       WHEREAS, Prenatal education should include recognition of  
6   symptoms, which include spikes in maternal blood pressure,  
7   sudden swelling of face and hands, severe upper abdominal pain,  
8   blurred vision, persistent headaches and breathlessness; and

9       WHEREAS, Many residents of this Commonwealth have joined with  
10   the Preeclampsia Foundation to raise public awareness in keeping  
11   with the goal of minimizing maternal and infant illness and  
12   death due to preeclampsia; and

13       WHEREAS, The House of Representatives supports the  
14   Preeclampsia Foundation in its efforts to provide support and  
15   improve health care practices for persons impacted by  
16   preeclampsia and related hypertensive disorders of pregnancy;  
17   therefore be it

18       RESOLVED, That the House of Representatives designate the  
19   month of May 2016 as "Preeclampsia Awareness Month" in  
20   Pennsylvania.