

---

THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF PENNSYLVANIA

---

HOUSE RESOLUTION

No. 1021 Session of  
2015

---

INTRODUCED BY TOOHIL, BAKER, BIZZARRO, BOBACK, R. BROWN,  
V. BROWN, COHEN, D. COSTA, DEAN, DIGIROLAMO, DUSH, GIBBONS,  
HENNESSEY, KAUFFMAN, KAVULICH, KINSEY, LONGIETTI, MACKENZIE,  
MAHONEY, MAJOR, MARSICO, McNEILL, MILLARD, MUSTIO, PASHINSKI,  
PAYNE, PICKETT, RAPP, READSHAW, REGAN, ROSS, ROZZI, SAYLOR,  
SCHLOSSBERG, SONNEY, VEREB, WARD, WATSON, YOUNGBLOOD AND  
McCARTER, SEPTEMBER 23, 2016

---

INTRODUCED AS NONCONTROVERSIAL RESOLUTION UNDER RULE 35,  
SEPTEMBER 23, 2016

---

A RESOLUTION

1 Designating the month of September 2016 as "Mesothelioma  
2 Awareness Month" in Pennsylvania.

3 WHEREAS, Mesothelioma cancer is an aggressive, asbestos-  
4 related disease that affects the linings of the chest, lungs,  
5 heart and abdomen; and

6 WHEREAS, Mesothelioma claimed more than 37,000 lives in the  
7 United States from 1999 to 2013; and

8 WHEREAS, The most common type of mesothelioma is pleural  
9 mesothelioma, which accounts for approximately 2,500 cases per  
10 year in the United States; and

11 WHEREAS, It is reported that only 10% to 20% of patients with  
12 pleural mesothelioma are diagnosed early enough for surgical  
13 intervention; and

14 WHEREAS, While symptoms can vary depending on the area of the  
15 body where the disease originates, common symptoms of

1 mesothelioma are fluid in the chest or abdomen, pain, shortness  
2 of breath, loss of appetite, heart failure, fatigue, cough and  
3 weight loss; and

4 WHEREAS, Asbestos was used in the construction of most office  
5 buildings, hospitals, public schools, power plants, automobile  
6 repair shops, refineries and residential homes built before  
7 1975; and

8 WHEREAS, A high percentage of mesothelioma victims were  
9 exposed to asbestos on naval ships and in shipyards; and

10 WHEREAS, Exposure to asbestos for as little as one month can  
11 result in mesothelioma 15 or more years later; and

12 WHEREAS, The lack of sufficient research to advance effective  
13 treatments for mesothelioma has led to inadequate treatment for  
14 those stricken with the disease and has resulted in a situation  
15 where the majority of mesothelioma patients die within 12 to 15  
16 months after diagnosis; and

17 WHEREAS, There is no known cure for mesothelioma, leaving the  
18 only defense to be research and prevention through education;  
19 and

20 WHEREAS, As of April 2015, researchers conducted nearly 250  
21 clinical trials for mesothelioma worldwide; therefore be it

22 RESOLVED, That the House of Representatives designate the  
23 month of September 2016 as "Mesothelioma Awareness Month" in  
24 Pennsylvania to help raise public awareness about mesothelioma  
25 and the need to research and discover an effective treatment and  
26 a cure for this deadly cancer.