
THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF PENNSYLVANIA

SENATE RESOLUTION

No. 9

Session of
2015

INTRODUCED BY SCHWANK, HAYWOOD, TEPLITZ, GREENLEAF, BREWSTER,
KITCHEN, BAKER, DINNIMAN, BOSCOLA, SCAVELLO, VULAKOVICH,
TARTAGLIONE, FONTANA, ALLOWAY AND WHITE, JANUARY 21, 2015

INTRODUCED AND ADOPTED, JANUARY 21, 2015

A RESOLUTION

1 Recognizing the month of January 2015 as "Cervical Cancer
2 Awareness Month" in Pennsylvania.

3 WHEREAS, There is a nationwide effort to raise public
4 awareness of cervical cancer during the month of January; and

5 WHEREAS, More than 4,000 women die each year from cervical
6 cancer and more than 12,000 women are diagnosed with the
7 disease; and

8 WHEREAS, Cervical cancer develops very slowly, with half of
9 patients diagnosed between 35 and 55 years of age and one in
10 five diagnosed after 65 years of age; and

11 WHEREAS, Screening tests and vaccines can essentially
12 eliminate the disease; and

13 WHEREAS, Periodic Pap tests are recommended to detect
14 precancerous and cancerous cervical cells for women 21 years of
15 age and older; and

16 WHEREAS, Regular cervical cancer screening can usually be
17 performed simply during a regular physical examination with a

1 Pap test, one of the most reliable and effective cancer
2 screening tests available; and

3 WHEREAS, The majority of women diagnosed with cervical cancer
4 have not had regular Pap tests or have not followed up on
5 abnormal Pap test results; and

6 WHEREAS, An estimated 20 million American men and women carry
7 Human Papillomavirus (HPV), the most common sexually transmitted
8 virus that leads to cervical cancer; and

9 WHEREAS, A series of three HPV vaccinations is recommended
10 for all males and females between 9 and 26 years of age, to
11 provide long-term protection against the most common strains of
12 HPV that cause cervical cancer; and

13 WHEREAS, Cervical cancer is strongly associated with poverty
14 and lack of access to medical care; and

15 WHEREAS, Other risk factors associated with cervical cancer
16 are smoking, long-term use of birth control pills and having
17 three or more children; and

18 WHEREAS, Medical advances have made cervical cancer, once the
19 second leading cause of death for women, a preventable disease
20 today with a very high rate of cure when detected early;
21 therefore be it

22 RESOLVED, That the Senate recognize the month of January 2015
23 as "Cervical Cancer Awareness Month" in Pennsylvania.