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THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF PENNSYLVANIA

SENATE RESOLUTION

No. 324 Session of 2015

INTRODUCED BY SCAVELLO, RAFFERTY, SABATINA, DINNIMAN, FONTANA, GREENLEAF, EICHELBERGER, BARTOLOTTA, COSTA, RESCHENTHALER, ARGALL, TARTAGLIONE, BREWSTER, VULAKOVICH, HUTCHINSON, BROWNE, MENSCH, FARNESE, TOMLINSON AND HAYWOOD, APRIL 5, 2016

INTRODUCED AND ADOPTED, APRIL 5, 2016

A RESOLUTION

Designating April 8, 2016, as "Cushing's Syndrome Awareness Day" in Pennsylvania.

WHEREAS, Cushing's syndrome is an endocrine disorder that is caused by an over-exposure of the body's tissues to the hormone cortisol; and

WHEREAS, Cortisol is essential to many of the body's cardiovascular and metabolic functions and assists the body's response to stress; and

WHEREAS, The excessive release of cortisol can be caused by a tumor in the pituitary or adrenal glands or by prolonged use of cortisone drugs to treat asthma, rheumatoid arthritis or lupus; and

WHEREAS, Cushing's syndrome affects between 10 and 15 million people, most commonly between 20 and 50 years of age; and

WHEREAS, The symptoms of Cushing's syndrome include abnormal weight gain in the abdomen and upper back, skin changes, depression, diabetes, high blood pressure and fatigue; and

WHEREAS, Treatment options include the cessation of corticosteroid medicine, surgical removal of tumors and medicine therapy to reduce a tumor's production of cortisol; and

WHEREAS, Delayed treatment of Cushing's syndrome significantly reduces treatment options; and

WHEREAS, Educating the public about the symptoms of Cushing's syndrome will likely increase the rate of successful treatment of the disease; and

WHEREAS, April 8 is the date that is widely accepted to call attention to the disease because it is the birthday of Harvey Cushing, the American surgeon and endocrinologist who discovered the disease in 1932; therefore be it

RESOLVED, That the Senate recognize April 8, 2016, as "Cushing's Syndrome Awareness Day" in Pennsylvania.