
THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF PENNSYLVANIA

HOUSE RESOLUTION

No. 9

Session of
2017

INTRODUCED BY BULLOCK, W. KELLER, DIGIROLAMO, KINSEY, HENNESSEY,
MILLARD, CALTAGIRONE, WATSON, O'BRIEN, MACKENZIE, READSHAW,
MURT, CONKLIN, SIMMONS, D. COSTA, DONATUCCI, SIMS,
SCHLOSSBERG, STURLA, LONGIETTI, BIZZARRO, V. BROWN, ROZZI,
GILLEN, EVERETT, PHILLIPS-HILL, FARRY AND GREINER,
JANUARY 23, 2017

INTRODUCED AS NONCONTROVERSIAL RESOLUTION UNDER RULE 35,
JANUARY 23, 2017

A RESOLUTION

1 Recognizing the month of February 2017 as "National Spay and
2 Neuter Awareness Month" and recognizing February 28, 2017, as
3 "World Spay Day" in Pennsylvania.

4 WHEREAS, Cats and dogs offer faithful companionship for pet
5 owners within this Commonwealth, yet millions of homeless
6 animals enter animal shelters each year; and

7 WHEREAS, Pet ownership involves many responsibilities and
8 offers many benefits for individuals and families in this
9 Commonwealth; and

10 WHEREAS, Spaying or neutering our companion animals and feral
11 cats effectively and humanely reduces the public health hazards
12 and other costs associated with animal overpopulation; and

13 WHEREAS, Veterinarians perform the procedure while animals
14 are under general anesthesia, with few intraoperative or
15 postoperative complications; and

16 WHEREAS, For young, healthy dogs or cats, spay or neuter

1 surgery generally costs less than most major surgeries; and
2 WHEREAS, Affordable spay and neuter options are available to
3 pet owners through subsidized spay and neuter clinics or
4 programs; and

5 WHEREAS, Free or low-cost resources are available in the
6 United States and may be available internationally; and

7 WHEREAS, Spayed or neutered companion animals may be subject
8 to reduced licensing fees in some jurisdictions; and

9 WHEREAS, Spayed or neutered cats and dogs experience a lower
10 incidence of infectious disease, trauma and certain cancers than
11 unaltered animals; and

12 WHEREAS, The long-term health and behavioral benefits for
13 spayed or neutered cats and dogs may contribute to an increased
14 life expectancy; and

15 WHEREAS, In particular, spayed female dogs may live 23%
16 longer than those who are not spayed; and

17 WHEREAS, "National Spay and Neuter Awareness Month"
18 highlights the important role of spay and neuter efforts in
19 controlling animal overpopulation and improving the lives of our
20 companion animals; and

21 WHEREAS, When two unaltered cats or dogs and their unaltered
22 offspring can multiply to as many as 60,000 animals within a
23 six-year period, the efficacy of spay and neuter efforts
24 concerns public and private entities; and

25 WHEREAS, "World Spay Day," an annual campaign of the Humane
26 Society of the United States, Humane Society International and
27 the Humane Society Veterinary Medical Association, highlights
28 the impact of spay and neuter efforts and the need for
29 affordable services, especially in underserved communities;
30 therefore be it

1 RESOLVED, That the House of Representatives recognize the
2 month of February 2017 as "National Spay and Neuter Awareness
3 Month" and recognize February 28, 2017, as "World Spay Day" in
4 Pennsylvania to raise public awareness and funding related to
5 animal welfare and to promote cooperation among pet owners,
6 veterinary professionals and animal advocates.