

THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF PENNSYLVANIA

HOUSE RESOLUTION

No. 227 Session of 2017

INTRODUCED BY KULIK, DRISCOLL, BAKER, READSHAW, DONATUCCI, SCHLOSSBERG, CALTAGIRONE, MACKENZIE, MARSICO, DIGIROLAMO, MURT, KINSEY, MILLARD, ENGLISH, HENNESSEY, DUSH, SONNEY, NEILSON, BIZZARRO, A. HARRIS, R. BROWN, WARD, FREEMAN, QUIGLEY, FARRY, DeLUCA, WARREN, LONGIETTI, GOODMAN, SOLOMON, CONKLIN AND GILLEN, APRIL 10, 2017

INTRODUCED AS NONCONTROVERSIAL RESOLUTION UNDER RULE 35, APRIL 10, 2017

A RESOLUTION

1 Designating May 1, 2017, as "Melanoma Monday" in Pennsylvania.

2 WHEREAS, Melanoma is a cancer that begins in the melanocytes
3 and can also be known as malignant melanoma and cutaneous
4 melanoma; and

5 WHEREAS, Melanomas can develop anywhere on the skin, however,
6 they are more likely to appear on the trunk in men and on the
7 legs in women; and

8 WHEREAS, Melanomas are also common on the neck and face; and

9 WHEREAS, Exposure to ultraviolet (UV) rays is a major risk
10 factor for melanomas, with sunlight serving as the main source
11 of UV rays, however, tanning beds and sun lamps are also sources
12 of artificial UV rays; and

13 WHEREAS, An individual's risk of developing melanoma is
14 higher if one or more first degree relatives, including parents,
15 brothers, sisters or children have been diagnosed with melanoma;

1 and

2 WHEREAS, Approximately 10% of all individuals with melanoma
3 have a family history of the disease; and

4 WHEREAS, Experts recommend that individuals, especially those
5 with a family history of melanoma, see a dermatologist regularly
6 for a whole-body skin exam and conduct self head-to-toe skin
7 exams once a month and be particularly careful about sun
8 protection and avoiding artificial UV rays; and

9 WHEREAS, Melanoma is one of the most common cancers in
10 individuals under 30 years of age; and

11 WHEREAS, The risk of developing melanoma increases with age;
12 and

13 WHEREAS, In the United States, men have a higher rate of
14 melanoma than women, although this varies by age; and

15 WHEREAS, The risk is higher for women under 50 years of age
16 and the risk is higher for men over 50 years of age; and

17 WHEREAS, The most important warning sign of melanoma is a new
18 spot on the skin or a spot that changes in size, shape or color;
19 and

20 WHEREAS, Other warning signs of melanoma include a sore that
21 does not heal, spread of pigment from the border of a spot into
22 surrounding skin, redness or swelling beyond the border of the
23 mole, change in sensation, including itchiness, tenderness or
24 pain or change in the surface of a mole, including scaliness,
25 oozing, bleeding or the appearance of a lump or bump; and

26 WHEREAS, Melanoma accounts for less than 1% of skin cancers,
27 however, it causes a majority of skin cancer deaths; and

28 WHEREAS, In the United States in 2017, the American Cancer
29 Society estimates that approximately 87,110 new melanomas will
30 be diagnosed, resulting in approximately 9,730 deaths; and

1 WHEREAS, Early-stage melanomas can often be treated with
2 surgery alone, however, more advanced cancers often require
3 other treatments, including immunotherapy, targeted therapy,
4 chemotherapy or radiation therapy; therefore be it

5 RESOLVED, That the House of Representatives designate May 1,
6 2017, as "Melanoma Monday" in Pennsylvania to raise awareness of
7 the causes and risk factors of melanoma and to promote
8 prevention and early detection of melanoma among all residents
9 of this Commonwealth.