
THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF PENNSYLVANIA

HOUSE RESOLUTION

No. 257 Session of
2017

INTRODUCED BY EMRICK, BAKER, BARRAR, BIZZARRO, R. BROWN,
V. BROWN, CALTAGIRONE, CAUSER, SCHLEGEL CULVER, DIGIROLAMO,
DRISCOLL, DUSH, FREEMAN, HEFFLEY, HENNESSEY, LONGIETTI,
MACKENZIE, MARSICO, MILLARD, MURT, NEILSON, O'NEILL, PICKETT,
RAPP, READSHAW, RYAN, SCHLOSSBERG, SONNEY, TOOHIL, WARD,
WATSON AND WHEELAND, APRIL 17, 2017

INTRODUCED AS NONCONTROVERSIAL RESOLUTION UNDER RULE 35,
APRIL 17, 2017

A RESOLUTION

1 Designating the month of May 2017 as "Preeclampsia Awareness
2 Month" in Pennsylvania.

3 WHEREAS, Preeclampsia is a dangerous condition of pregnancy
4 that can, in its severest form, lead to maternal and infant
5 mortality or premature birth with significant health risks for
6 pregnant women and their infants; and

7 WHEREAS, Preeclampsia includes HELLP syndrome, named for its
8 characteristics of hemolysis, elevated liver enzymes and low
9 platelet count, and eclampsia, which is associated with
10 pregnancy-related seizure activity; and

11 WHEREAS, As many as 320,000 cases of preeclampsia are
12 diagnosed in the United States every year, with approximately
13 25% resulting in severe, life-threatening consequences for
14 pregnant women and their infants; and

15 WHEREAS, Public education on signs and symptoms of

1 preeclampsia, HELLP syndrome and eclampsia can help women
2 recognize these conditions and seek appropriate medical care;
3 and

4 WHEREAS, Prenatal education should incorporate recognition of
5 symptoms, including spikes in maternal blood pressure, sudden
6 swelling of face and hands, severe upper abdominal pain, blurred
7 vision, persistent headaches and breathlessness; and

8 WHEREAS, Many residents of this Commonwealth have joined with
9 the Preeclampsia Foundation to raise public awareness in keeping
10 with the goal of minimizing maternal and infant illness and
11 death due to preeclampsia; and

12 WHEREAS, The House of Representatives supports the
13 Preeclampsia Foundation in its efforts to provide support and
14 improve health care practices for individuals impacted by
15 preeclampsia and related hypertensive disorders of pregnancy;
16 therefore be it

17 RESOLVED, That the House of Representatives designate the
18 month of May 2017 as "Preeclampsia Awareness Month" in
19 Pennsylvania.