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THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF PENNSYLVANIA

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HOUSE RESOLUTION

No. 402 Session of  
2017

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INTRODUCED BY BAKER, QUIGLEY, MILLARD, DRISCOLL, DIGIROLAMO,  
BIZZARRO, PHILLIPS-HILL, WARD, SCHLOSSBERG, CAUSER, SONNEY,  
DUSH, RYAN, MURT, BOBACK, LONGIETTI, CALTAGIRONE, TOOHL,  
SCHLEGEL CULVER, EVERETT, WATSON, NEILSON AND WHEELAND,  
JUNE 14, 2017

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INTRODUCED AS NONCONTROVERSIAL RESOLUTION UNDER RULE 35,  
JUNE 14, 2017

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A RESOLUTION

1 Designating the week of September 10 through 16, 2017, as  
2 "Idiopathic Pulmonary Fibrosis Research and Awareness Week"  
3 in Pennsylvania to increase awareness and understanding of  
4 idiopathic pulmonary fibrosis.

5 WHEREAS, Idiopathic pulmonary fibrosis is a debilitating and  
6 generally fatal disease marked by progressive scarring of the  
7 lungs causing an irreversible loss of the lung tissue's ability  
8 to transport oxygen; and

9 WHEREAS, Idiopathic pulmonary fibrosis progresses quickly,  
10 often causing disability or death within three to five years;  
11 and

12 WHEREAS, Idiopathic pulmonary fibrosis is the most common  
13 form of interstitial lung disease; and

14 WHEREAS, There is no proven cause of idiopathic pulmonary  
15 fibrosis, and it is often misdiagnosed or under diagnosed; and

16 WHEREAS, Idiopathic pulmonary fibrosis is five times more  
17 common than cystic fibrosis and Lou Gehrig's disease yet the

1 disease remains virtually unknown and receives a fraction of the  
2 research funding; and

3 WHEREAS, More than 132,000 United States citizens have  
4 idiopathic pulmonary fibrosis and approximately 50,000 new cases  
5 are diagnosed each year; and

6 WHEREAS, As many as 40,000 people die each year due to  
7 idiopathic pulmonary fibrosis, the same number as breast cancer;  
8 and

9 WHEREAS, Approximately 7,000 Pennsylvanians suffer from  
10 idiopathic pulmonary fibrosis; and

11 WHEREAS, This Commonwealth has become a leader in research  
12 and treatment of idiopathic pulmonary fibrosis, with more than  
13 15% of all lung transplants in the United States performed in  
14 Pennsylvania hospitals; and

15 WHEREAS, A need has been identified to increase research,  
16 awareness and detection of idiopathic pulmonary fibrosis;  
17 therefore be it

18 RESOLVED, That the House of Representatives designate the  
19 week of September 10 through 16, 2017, as "Idiopathic Pulmonary  
20 Fibrosis Research and Awareness Week" in Pennsylvania to  
21 increase awareness and understanding of idiopathic pulmonary  
22 fibrosis.