

THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF PENNSYLVANIA

HOUSE RESOLUTION

No. 542 Session of
2017

INTRODUCED BY CALTAGIRONE, HENNESSEY, NEILSON, LONGIETTI,
BIZZARRO, MILLARD, KINSEY, MURT, DAVIS, TOOHL, DIGIROLAMO,
SCHLOSSBERG, RYAN, READSHAW, CONKLIN, ROZZI, SONNEY, DUSH,
V. BROWN, O'BRIEN, TALLMAN AND BRADFORD, OCTOBER 3, 2017

INTRODUCED AS NONCONTROVERSIAL RESOLUTION UNDER RULE 35,
OCTOBER 3, 2017

A RESOLUTION

1 Recognizing dwarfism with the hope of raising positive awareness
2 about dwarfism and promoting the welfare of people having
3 dwarfism in this Commonwealth.

4 WHEREAS, Dwarfism is a rare medical condition, with an
5 estimated 30,000 people in the United States and more than
6 650,000 people worldwide having some type of dwarfism; and

7 WHEREAS, Dwarfism affects bone growth but generally does not
8 affect cognitive abilities; and

9 WHEREAS, Dwarfism is a recognized condition under the
10 Americans with Disabilities Act; and

11 WHEREAS, While the medical prognosis for people having
12 dwarfism is highly individualized, the majority of people having
13 dwarfism enjoy normal intelligence, normal life spans and
14 reasonably good health; and

15 WHEREAS, Other people having dwarfism will require surgeries
16 or other medical interventions to address complications and
17 maximize mobility; and

1 WHEREAS, The preferred terminology for people having dwarfism
2 includes "persons of short stature," "persons having dwarfism"
3 or "little persons"; and

4 WHEREAS, "Midget," an antiquated term, may offend people
5 having dwarfism; and

6 WHEREAS, People having dwarfism can turn to support
7 organizations such as Little People of America, Inc. (LPA) for
8 guidance on parenting, adoption, education, medical
9 consultation, physical fitness, peer support, community outreach
10 and advocacy; and

11 WHEREAS, As the oldest and largest support organization for
12 people having dwarfism in the United States, LPA is dedicated to
13 improving the quality of life for people having dwarfism while
14 celebrating with great pride their contributions to social
15 diversity; therefore be it

16 RESOLVED, That the House of Representatives recognize
17 dwarfism with the hope of raising positive awareness about
18 dwarfism and promoting the welfare of people having dwarfism in
19 this Commonwealth.