
THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF PENNSYLVANIA

HOUSE RESOLUTION

No. 643 Session of
2018

INTRODUCED BY KORTZ, TOOHIL, READSHAW, MATZIE, NEILSON,
KIRKLAND, DEAN, BIZZARRO, RYAN, STAATS, CALTAGIRONE, KINSEY,
KULIK, HILL-EVANS, MILLARD, WARD, CHARLTON, BOBACK,
SCHLOSSBERG, WARREN, PASHINSKI, BAKER, LONGIETTI, HICKERNELL,
O'NEILL, JAMES, SANTORA, YOUNGBLOOD, V. BROWN, SONNEY, DUSH,
JOZWIAK, BURNS, MURT, PICKETT, B. MILLER, J. McNEILL,
FREEMAN, DIGIROLAMO, MEHAFFIE, KNOWLES, THOMAS, MADDEN,
SCHWEYER, HEFFLEY, SAYLOR, DRISCOLL, IRVIN AND WATSON,
JANUARY 22, 2018

INTRODUCED AS NONCONTROVERSIAL RESOLUTION UNDER RULE 35,
JANUARY 22, 2018

A RESOLUTION

1 Recognizing the month of January 2018 as "National Blood Donor
2 Month" in Pennsylvania.

3 WHEREAS, January has been recognized as "National Blood Donor
4 Month" since 1970 to acknowledge the lifesaving contributions of
5 blood and platelet donors; and

6 WHEREAS, The goal of "National Blood Donor Month" is to
7 increase blood and platelet donations during the winter, which
8 is traditionally one of the most difficult times of the year to
9 collect blood products; and

10 WHEREAS, During the winter months, inclement weather often
11 results in canceled blood drives; and

12 WHEREAS, During the winter months, seasonal illnesses such as
13 the flu may cause some donors to become temporarily unable to
14 donate, and busy holiday schedules can make it difficult for

1 blood donors to keep appointments; and

2 WHEREAS, Traumatic injuries on icy roads brought by winter
3 weather can lead to an increase in the need for blood; and

4 WHEREAS, A single car accident victim may require as many as
5 100 pints of blood; and

6 WHEREAS, Every two seconds someone in the United States needs
7 blood; and

8 WHEREAS, Many sophisticated medical procedures, including
9 organ transplants and heart surgeries, rely on blood
10 transfusions; and

11 WHEREAS, Hospital patients nationwide need approximately
12 44,000 blood donations daily for cancer care, surgeries and the
13 treatment of serious diseases and trauma; and

14 WHEREAS, Approximately one pint of blood is given during a
15 donation, which has the potential to save up to three lives; and

16 WHEREAS, Approximately 36,000 units of blood are needed each
17 day in the United States to save the lives of cancer patients,
18 accident, burn and trauma victims, newborn babies, mothers
19 delivering babies, transplant patients, surgery patients and
20 others in need; and

21 WHEREAS, Although an estimated 38% of the population of the
22 United States is eligible to donate blood at any given time,
23 less than 10% of that eligible population actually donate blood
24 each year; and

25 WHEREAS, Donating blood is a safe and simple process that
26 millions of Americans are able to do and millions more rely on
27 for medical care; therefore be it

28 RESOLVED, That the House of Representatives recognize the
29 month of January 2018 as "National Blood Donor Month" in
30 Pennsylvania.