
THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF PENNSYLVANIA

HOUSE RESOLUTION

No. 854 Session of
2018

INTRODUCED BY SCHWEYER, NEILSON, READSHAW, TOOHL, HENNESSEY,
SCHLOSSBERG, BIZZARRO, PICKETT, DIGIROLAMO, CALTAGIRONE,
RYAN, SCHLEGEL CULVER, MILLARD, LONGIETTI, DAVIS, R. BROWN,
BARBIN, MURT, McCLINTON, WARD, YOUNGBLOOD, J. McNEILL, DALEY,
MARSICO AND BRADFORD, APRIL 19, 2018

INTRODUCED AS NONCONTROVERSIAL RESOLUTION UNDER RULE 35,
APRIL 19, 2018

A RESOLUTION

1 Recognizing May 12, 2018, as "Myalgic Encephalomyelitis/Chronic
2 Fatigue Syndrome Awareness Day" in Pennsylvania.

3 WHEREAS, Myalgic encephalomyelitis (ME), commonly referred to
4 as chronic fatigue syndrome (ME/CFS), is a disorder
5 characterized by a substantial disability that affects daily
6 activities and profound fatigue that is not relieved by rest;
7 and

8 WHEREAS, Symptoms of ME/CFS include severe fatigue,
9 unrefreshing sleep, problems thinking and concentrating, muscle
10 and joint pain and worsened memory; and

11 WHEREAS, ME/CFS may get worse after any physical or mental
12 activity, due to a symptom known as postexertional malaise; and

13 WHEREAS, Although it is most common in women and people
14 between 40 and 60 years of age, ME/CFS affects people of all
15 ages, races and ethnicities; and

16 WHEREAS, Researchers estimate that anywhere between 836,000

1 and 2.5 million Americans suffer from ME/CFS, but only an
2 estimated 10% have been correctly diagnosed; and

3 WHEREAS, ME/CFS is often misdiagnosed or left undiagnosed due
4 to the fact that there is no test to confirm it; and

5 WHEREAS, The symptoms of ME/CFS appear similar to those of
6 many other illnesses; and

7 WHEREAS, ME/CFS may make it hard to maintain employment, go
8 to school and take part in family and social life; and

9 WHEREAS, ME/CFS costs the United States economy approximately
10 \$17 to \$24 billion annually in medical bills and lost incomes;
11 and

12 WHEREAS, The cause of ME/CFS is unknown; and

13 WHEREAS, There is no known cure, but certain ME/CFS symptoms
14 may be treated or managed; and

15 WHEREAS, May 12 has been recognized as "Myalgic
16 Encephalomyelitis/Chronic Fatigue Syndrome Awareness Day" in
17 honor of Florence Nightingale, who was believed to have suffered
18 from this disorder; and

19 WHEREAS, "Myalgic Encephalomyelitis/Chronic Fatigue Syndrome
20 Awareness Day" is observed around the world to bring awareness
21 to patients with the disorder as well as families, caregivers
22 and researchers who work with or have been impacted by this
23 disorder; therefore be it

24 RESOLVED, That the House of Representatives recognize May 12,
25 2018, as "Myalgic Encephalomyelitis/Chronic Fatigue Syndrome
26 Awareness Day" in Pennsylvania and support efforts to find a
27 cure.