
THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF PENNSYLVANIA

HOUSE RESOLUTION

No. 1168 Session of
2018

INTRODUCED BY TAI, NEILSON, BIZZARRO, HILL-EVANS, RYAN,
LONGIETTI, BURNS, DIGIROLAMO, THOMAS, CALTAGIRONE, DAVIS,
BOBACK, READSHAW, MILLARD, YOUNGBLOOD AND WARREN,
OCTOBER 16, 2018

INTRODUCED AS NONCONTROVERSIAL RESOLUTION UNDER RULE 35,
OCTOBER 16, 2018

A RESOLUTION

1 Recognizing the month of October 2018 as "Eczema Awareness
2 Month" in Pennsylvania.

3 WHEREAS, Eczema refers to a set of skin conditions that cause
4 red, itchy and inflamed skin and has profound medical,
5 psychosocial and economic impacts on patients, families and
6 communities; and

7 WHEREAS, Eczema is noncontagious and very common, with more
8 than 30 million Americans having some form of eczema; and

9 WHEREAS, While the exact cause of eczema is unknown,
10 researchers do understand that individuals develop eczema due to
11 a combination of genes and environmental triggers; and

12 WHEREAS, It is common for babies and children to develop
13 eczema, but the condition often dissipates as a child grows
14 older; and

15 WHEREAS, Adults may also develop eczema even if they never
16 had the condition as a child; and

1 WHEREAS, Symptoms of eczema include dry, red, inflamed or
2 sensitive skin, dark colored patches of skin, oozing or crusting
3 of the skin, swelling of the skin and severe itching of the
4 skin; and

5 WHEREAS, Individuals with eczema frequently experience
6 correlated symptoms and ailments such as asthma, allergic
7 rhinitis, food allergies, attention-deficit hyperactivity
8 disorder, disrupted sleep, bacterial and viral infections and
9 hypertension; and

10 WHEREAS, Eczema has been tied to mental health, as research
11 shows that children and adults with eczema have higher rates of
12 depression and anxiety than the general population; and

13 WHEREAS, Correlated symptoms and ailments experienced by
14 eczema patients may restrict what they can eat and drink, affect
15 performance at work or school and impact self-esteem, which can
16 all significantly decrease an individual's quality of life; and

17 WHEREAS, Eczema also has a significant economic impact, with
18 the direct and indirect medical costs of eczema in the United
19 States being at least \$5.3 billion per year; and

20 WHEREAS, The cost to the United States health system to treat
21 atopic dermatitis, the most common form of eczema, was estimated
22 to be \$314 million in 2016 alone; and

23 WHEREAS, Individuals with eczema often face significant
24 barriers to access medical treatment, including high out-of-
25 pocket costs and insurance requirements that delay a patient's
26 access to necessary medications; and

27 WHEREAS, While there is no cure for eczema, the condition can
28 be treated depending on age and severity through over-the-
29 counter remedies, prescription topical medications,
30 phototherapy, immunosuppressants, biologic drugs and certain

1 natural and alternative treatments; and

2 WHEREAS, "Eczema Awareness Month" is celebrated across the
3 United States by eczema patients, affected friends and families,
4 caregivers and public health organizations, such as the National
5 Eczema Association, to raise awareness of eczema and to support
6 individuals who are living with the condition; therefore be it

7 RESOLVED, That the House of Representatives recognize the
8 month of October 2018 as "Eczema Awareness Month" in
9 Pennsylvania.