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THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF PENNSYLVANIA

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# SENATE RESOLUTION

No. 179 Session of  
2017

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INTRODUCED BY KILLION, ARGALL, AUMENT, BAKER, BOSCOLA, BREWSTER,  
BROWNE, COSTA, DINNIMAN, FARNESE, FONTANA, GREENLEAF, MENSCH,  
RAFFERTY AND SABATINA, SEPTEMBER 18, 2017

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INTRODUCED AND ADOPTED, SEPTEMBER 18, 2017

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A RESOLUTION

1 Designating the month of September 2017 as "Sepsis Awareness  
2 Month" in Pennsylvania.

3 WHEREAS, Sepsis is a blood infection that attacks the body's  
4 own tissues and organs and can lead to tissue damage, organ  
5 failure and death; and

6 WHEREAS, Sepsis is the body's overwhelming and life-  
7 threatening response to infection; and

8 WHEREAS, Sepsis affects an estimated 1.6 million people  
9 annually; and

10 WHEREAS, Sepsis is one of the leading causes of death in the  
11 United States, as more people are dying from sepsis than breast  
12 cancer, prostate cancer and HIV/AIDS combined, and claims more  
13 than 258,000 lives annually; and

14 WHEREAS, Approximately 40% of patients diagnosed with severe  
15 sepsis do not survive; and

16 WHEREAS, Approximately 50% of survivors of sepsis suffer from  
17 post-sepsis syndrome; and

1 WHEREAS, Sepsis significantly impacts at-risk populations,  
2 elderly patients, young children and individuals who are  
3 immunosuppressed; and

4 WHEREAS, Health care professionals and advocates consider  
5 this disease to be an epidemic, with one individual diagnosed  
6 with sepsis every 20 seconds; and

7 WHEREAS, Sepsis is currently the third leading cause of  
8 hospital admissions in this Commonwealth; and

9 WHEREAS, Sepsis was the most expensive in-patient cost in  
10 hospitals throughout the United States in 2014, costing nearly  
11 \$24 billion; and

12 WHEREAS, Health care professionals are combating sepsis  
13 through early detection, best practices, new initiatives,  
14 comprehensive education and defined data and analytics; and

15 WHEREAS, Early detection is the best hope for individuals  
16 diagnosed with sepsis until a cure is found; and

17 WHEREAS, This Commonwealth is proud to support health care  
18 professionals, families and all individuals combating sepsis;  
19 and

20 WHEREAS, In 2011, the Sepsis Alliance officially designated  
21 September as "Sepsis Awareness Month," shining a spotlight on  
22 sepsis by spreading the word around the globe; and

23 WHEREAS, In 2016, the Department of Health held the first  
24 annual conference titled Stopping Sepsis: Saving Lives in  
25 Pennsylvania, which brought together more than 200 health care  
26 leaders to discuss how this Commonwealth can combat sepsis;  
27 therefore be it

28 RESOLVED, That the Senate designate the month of September  
29 2017 as "Sepsis Awareness Month" in Pennsylvania.