
THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF PENNSYLVANIA

HOUSE RESOLUTION

No. 239 Session of
2019

INTRODUCED BY EMRICK, BARRAR, BIZZARRO, BROWN, BURNS,
CALTAGIRONE, CAUSER, SCHLEGEL CULVER, DIGIROLAMO, FREEMAN,
HENNESSEY, HILL-EVANS, KINSEY, KORTZ, LONGIETTI, MACKENZIE,
MCNEILL, MEHAFFIE, MILLARD, MURT, OBERLANDER, PASHINSKI,
READSHAW, RYAN, SCHWEYER, SONNEY, YOUNGBLOOD AND MARKOSEK,
APRIL 16, 2019

INTRODUCED AS NONCONTROVERSIAL RESOLUTION UNDER RULE 35,
APRIL 16, 2019

A RESOLUTION

1 Recognizing the month of May 2019 as "Preeclampsia Awareness
2 Month" in Pennsylvania.

3 WHEREAS, Preeclampsia is a dangerous condition of pregnancy
4 that can, in its severest form, lead to maternal and infant
5 mortality or premature birth with significant health risks for
6 pregnant women and their infants; and

7 WHEREAS, HELLP syndrome is a variant of preeclampsia named
8 for its characteristics of hemolysis, elevated liver enzymes and
9 low platelet count; and

10 WHEREAS, If not properly recognized and managed, preeclampsia
11 can progress to eclampsia, which causes pregnancy-related
12 seizure activity; and

13 WHEREAS, As many as 320,000 cases of preeclampsia are
14 diagnosed in the United States every year, with an increasing
15 number of cases resulting in severe, life-threatening

1 consequences for pregnant women and their infants; and

2 WHEREAS, Public education on signs and symptoms of
3 preeclampsia, HELLP syndrome and eclampsia can help women
4 recognize these conditions and seek appropriate medical care;
5 and

6 WHEREAS, Prenatal education should incorporate recognition of
7 symptoms, including spikes in maternal blood pressure, sudden
8 swelling of face and hands, severe upper abdominal pain, blurred
9 vision, persistent headaches and breathlessness; and

10 WHEREAS, Many residents of this Commonwealth have joined with
11 the Preeclampsia Foundation to raise public awareness in keeping
12 with the goal of minimizing maternal and infant illness and
13 death due to preeclampsia; and

14 WHEREAS, The House of Representatives supports the
15 Preeclampsia Foundation in its efforts to provide support and
16 improve health care practices for individuals impacted by
17 preeclampsia and related hypertensive disorders of pregnancy;
18 therefore be it

19 RESOLVED, That the House of Representatives recognize the
20 month of May 2019 as "Preeclampsia Awareness Month" in
21 Pennsylvania.