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THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF PENNSYLVANIA

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HOUSE RESOLUTION

No. 300 Session of  
2019

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INTRODUCED BY KRUEGER, BIZZARRO, SONNEY, HENNESSEY, KORTZ,  
KINSEY, VITALI, FREEMAN, BROWN, YOUNGBLOOD, KULIK, SCHLEGEL  
CULVER, DIGIROLAMO, WILLIAMS, READSHAW, CALTAGIRONE, MILLARD,  
HILL-EVANS, LONGIETTI, NEILSON, CIRESI, CAUSER AND DeLUCA,  
MAY 2, 2019

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INTRODUCED AS NONCONTROVERSIAL RESOLUTION UNDER RULE 35,  
MAY 2, 2019

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A RESOLUTION

1 Designating the month of May 2019 as "Fibromuscular Dysplasia  
2 Awareness Month" in Pennsylvania.

3 WHEREAS, Fibromuscular dysplasia (FMD) is a disease that  
4 causes abnormal cell growth of the arterial wall, often giving  
5 the appearance of a string of beads, and can lead to aneurysms  
6 and areas of narrowing and tearing of the arterial wall; and

7 WHEREAS, FMD patients present the same symptoms that affect  
8 much of the general population, including hypertension,  
9 headaches and dizziness; and

10 WHEREAS, There has been little progress in understanding FMD  
11 since it was first diagnosed in 1938; and

12 WHEREAS, There is no known cause or cure for the disease, but  
13 symptoms can be managed through treatment; and

14 WHEREAS, FMD is classified as a rare disease, though many  
15 researchers believe it is underdiagnosed; and

16 WHEREAS, Data suggests that up to 4% of the world's

1 population may have FMD; and

2 WHEREAS, Women comprise 90% of patients diagnosed with FMD;  
3 and

4 WHEREAS, It has been recognized that many women who are  
5 diagnosed with spontaneous coronary artery dissections (SCAD)  
6 have underlying FMD; and

7 WHEREAS, SCAD can lead to acute coronary syndrome, heart  
8 attack and death; and

9 WHEREAS, SCAD is more common than previously thought and is  
10 associated with pregnancy and physical and emotional stress; and

11 WHEREAS, Individuals and families affected by FMD often  
12 experience isolation, have difficulty in obtaining accurate and  
13 timely diagnosis, have less than optimal treatment options and  
14 must educate their own physicians about the disease; and

15 WHEREAS, The Fibromuscular Dysplasia Society of America  
16 (FMDSA) was founded in March 2003 and over the past 16 years has  
17 been active and successful in raising public and physician  
18 awareness of the disease, increasing patient support and working  
19 with researchers around the world; and

20 WHEREAS, FMDSA is also funding the United States Registry for  
21 Fibromuscular Dysplasia, which will be used to learn how to  
22 better diagnose and treat patients with FMD; and

23 WHEREAS, FMDSA is organizing a global observance of FMD to  
24 have patients, medical professionals and researchers join  
25 together to focus attention on FMD as a public health issue;  
26 therefore be it

27 RESOLVED, That the House of Representatives designate the  
28 month of May 2019 as "Fibromuscular Dysplasia Awareness Month"  
29 in Pennsylvania.