
THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF PENNSYLVANIA

HOUSE RESOLUTION

No. 305 Session of
2019

INTRODUCED BY BURGOS, MURT, ULLMAN, PASHINSKI, HENNESSEY,
LONGIETTI, BIZZARRO, RYAN, HARKINS, HILL-EVANS, DONATUCCI,
KORTZ, SONNEY, READSHAW, SCHLOSSBERG, FREEMAN, WILLIAMS,
McCARTER, BURNS, BROWN, CALTAGIRONE, B. MILLER, GAYDOS,
YOUNGBLOOD, MILLARD, SCHMITT, NEILSON, PYLE, McNEILL,
DiGIROLAMO, DeLUCA, O'MARA, KINSEY, MADDEN, EVERETT AND
SCHLEGEL CULVER, MAY 6, 2019

INTRODUCED AS NONCONTROVERSIAL RESOLUTION UNDER RULE 35,
MAY 6, 2019

A RESOLUTION

1 Designating the month of May 2019 as "Cancer Caregivers
2 Recognition Month" in Pennsylvania and honoring the vital
3 role caregivers play in the lives of cancer patients.

4 WHEREAS, The American Cancer Society estimates that there
5 will be 79,890 new cases of cancer diagnosed in this
6 Commonwealth in 2019; and

7 WHEREAS, Known as family caregivers or lay caregivers, unpaid
8 caregivers are usually spouses, partners or adult children, with
9 close friends, coworkers and neighbors often filling this role
10 when family members are not nearby or are unavailable; and

11 WHEREAS, Caregivers are an important part of the health care
12 team and provide a complex array of support tasks that extend
13 across physical, psychological, spiritual and emotional domains;
14 and

15 WHEREAS, A family caregiver's work can be a full-time job,

1 often forcing the caregiver to quit their paying occupation to
2 meet the demands of providing care to those with cancer; and

3 WHEREAS, Caring for an individual with cancer can be very
4 stressful and exhausting, requiring emotional, spiritual and
5 physical strength; and

6 WHEREAS, The risks associated with the emotional toll taken
7 on a cancer caregiver can include a decrease in quality of life,
8 depression, impaired immunity, heart disease and early death;
9 and

10 WHEREAS, Caregiver stress may continue after the patient's
11 treatment ends as roles change again, and some caregivers
12 experience problems adjusting after treatment is completed; and

13 WHEREAS, The support of family, friends, employers, coworkers
14 and the community is key to assist caregivers in taking care of
15 themselves both during caregiving and after caregiving ends; and

16 WHEREAS, Many caregivers find satisfaction in providing care
17 for a loved one with cancer as a means of expressing their love
18 and respect for that individual; and

19 WHEREAS, Many cancer patients are deeply grateful to their
20 caregivers for the love and dedication, weathering the
21 challenges and setbacks of cancer treatment and sharing the
22 triumphs with them; therefore be it

23 RESOLVED, That the House of Representatives designate the
24 month of May 2019 as "Cancer Caregivers Recognition Month" in
25 Pennsylvania; and be it further

26 RESOLVED, That the House of Representatives honor all cancer
27 caregivers for their strength, love and unwavering support for
28 their loved ones with cancer and urge all residents to show
29 their support and appreciation for cancer caregivers across this
30 Commonwealth.