
THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF PENNSYLVANIA

HOUSE RESOLUTION

No. 497 Session of
2019

INTRODUCED BY BIZZARRO, CALTAGIRONE, HENNESSEY, MILLARD,
SCHLOSSBERG, KORTZ, HILL-EVANS, SCHLEGEL CULVER, DIGIROLAMO,
MERSKI, McNEILL, MURT, BURNS, MALAGARI, YOUNGBLOOD, HEFFLEY,
SNYDER, T. DAVIS, MADDEN, KIM, READSHAW AND HOWARD,
SEPTEMBER 18, 2019

REFERRED TO COMMITTEE ON HEALTH, SEPTEMBER 18, 2019

A RESOLUTION

1 Recognizing dwarfism with the hope of raising positive awareness
2 about dwarfism and promoting the welfare of people having
3 dwarfism in this Commonwealth.

4 WHEREAS, Dwarfism is a rare medical condition, with an
5 estimated 30,000 people in the United States and more than
6 650,000 people worldwide having some type of dwarfism; and

7 WHEREAS, Dwarfism affects bone growth but generally does not
8 affect cognitive abilities; and

9 WHEREAS, Dwarfism is a recognized condition under the
10 Americans with Disabilities Act; and

11 WHEREAS, While the medical prognosis for people having
12 dwarfism is highly individualized, the majority of people having
13 dwarfism enjoy normal life spans and reasonably good health; and

14 WHEREAS, Some people having dwarfism will require surgeries
15 or other medical interventions to address complications and
16 maximize mobility; and

17 WHEREAS, The preferred terminology for people having dwarfism

1 includes "persons of short stature," "persons having dwarfism"
2 or "little persons"; and

3 WHEREAS, "Midget," an antiquated term, may offend people
4 having dwarfism; and

5 WHEREAS, People having dwarfism can turn to support
6 organizations such as Little People of America, Inc. (LPA) for
7 guidance on parenting, adoption, education, medical
8 consultation, physical fitness, peer support, community outreach
9 and advocacy; and

10 WHEREAS, As the oldest and largest support organization for
11 people having dwarfism in the United States, LPA is dedicated to
12 improving the quality of life for people having dwarfism while
13 celebrating with great pride their contributions to social
14 diversity; therefore be it

15 RESOLVED, That the House of Representatives recognize
16 dwarfism with the hope of raising positive awareness about
17 dwarfism and promoting the welfare of people having dwarfism in
18 this Commonwealth.