
THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF PENNSYLVANIA

HOUSE RESOLUTION

No. 506 Session of
2019

INTRODUCED BY QUINN, HENNESSEY, BURNS, BIZZARRO, KORTZ, KINSEY,
RYAN, BROWN, READSHAW, YOUNGBLOOD, SCHMITT, DIGIROLAMO,
MILLARD, HILL-EVANS, STAATS, CALTAGIRONE AND ROEBUCK,
SEPTEMBER 19, 2019

REFERRED TO COMMITTEE ON HEALTH, SEPTEMBER 19, 2019

A RESOLUTION

1 Designating the month of September 2019 as "Sepsis Awareness
2 Month" in Pennsylvania.

3 WHEREAS, Sepsis is the body's overwhelming response to
4 infection that can lead to tissue damage, organ failure and
5 death; and

6 WHEREAS, More than 1.7 million people are diagnosed with
7 sepsis in the United States each year; and

8 WHEREAS, Sepsis is one of the leading causes of death in the
9 United States and takes more lives than opioid overdose, breast
10 cancer and prostate cancer combined; and

11 WHEREAS, Sepsis claims more than 270,000 lives annually; and

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

14 WHEREAS, Approximately 50% of survivors of sepsis suffer from
15 post-sepsis syndrome; and

16 WHEREAS, Sepsis significantly impacts at-risk populations,
17 elderly patients, young children and individuals who are

1 immunosuppressed; and

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

5 WHEREAS, Sepsis hospitalizations in the United States cost
6 more than \$27 billion each year; and

7 WHEREAS, Health care professionals are combating sepsis
8 through early detection, best practices, new initiatives,
9 comprehensive education and defined data and analytics; and

10 WHEREAS, Early detection and prompt treatment offer the best
11 chances for reducing deaths and improving recovery for
12 individuals diagnosed with sepsis until a cure is found; and

13 WHEREAS, This Commonwealth is proud to support health care
14 professionals, families and all individuals combating sepsis;
15 and

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

19 WHEREAS, In 2016, the Department of Health, with support from
20 the Hospital and Healthsystem Association of Pennsylvania (HAP),
21 held the first sepsis conference; and

22 WHEREAS, In 2017 and 2018, HAP brought together more than 200
23 health care leaders from across this Commonwealth, as well as a
24 number of sepsis experts for successful conferences each year;
25 and

26 WHEREAS, Continuing that success, HAP is again taking the
27 lead to plan this year's conference for September 23, 2019,
28 entitled "Solving the Puzzle of Sepsis-Putting the Pieces
29 Together in Pennsylvania"; and

30 WHEREAS, Sepsis is treatable, especially with early

1 recognition and care, and individuals can help by learning about
2 the signs and symptoms of sepsis; therefore be it

3 RESOLVED, That the House of Representatives designate the
4 month of September 2019 as "Sepsis Awareness Month" in
5 Pennsylvania.