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THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF PENNSYLVANIA

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HOUSE RESOLUTION

No. 566 Session of  
2019

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INTRODUCED BY MATZIE, BURNS, SAINATO, READSHAW, RAVENSTAHL,  
KORTZ, DIGIROLAMO, BIZZARRO, DONATUCCI, COX, HENNESSEY,  
SONNEY, HILL-EVANS, WARREN, ISAACSON, RYAN, JAMES, KINSEY,  
CALTAGIRONE, FREEMAN, LONGIETTI, HARKINS, YOUNGBLOOD, ULLMAN,  
MEHAFFIE, SCHLOSSBERG, STAATS, SCHLEGEL CULVER, HEFFLEY,  
BROOKS, BROWN, MILLARD, SCHMITT, McNEILL, MALONEY, CAUSER,  
PICKETT, MURT, B. MILLER, BERNSTINE, DEASY, DeLUCA AND  
McCLINTON, OCTOBER 21, 2019

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REFERRED TO COMMITTEE ON HEALTH, OCTOBER 21, 2019

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A RESOLUTION

1 Designating the month of November 2019 as "Pancreatic Cancer  
2 Awareness Month" in Pennsylvania.

3 WHEREAS, The pancreas is a thin, pear-shaped gland behind the  
4 stomach that plays an important role in the digestive system by  
5 producing fluids to help break down food and hormones to control  
6 blood sugar levels; and

7 WHEREAS, There are typically no symptoms during the early  
8 stages of pancreatic cancer and it spreads quickly throughout  
9 the body, making it difficult to detect and harder to treat in  
10 later stages; and

11 WHEREAS, Symptoms that could indicate pancreatic cancer  
12 include upper abdominal pain, weight loss, jaundice, severe  
13 itching, digestive problems, nausea and vomiting; and

14 WHEREAS, The exact cause of pancreatic cancer is yet to be  
15 determined; and

1       WHEREAS, Risk factors, including genetics, age, smoking,  
2 obesity and long-standing diabetes, may contribute to the  
3 development of pancreatic cancer; and

4       WHEREAS, Pancreatic cancer is the third leading cause of  
5 cancer-related deaths in men and women in the United States each  
6 year; and

7       WHEREAS, In 2019, more than 45,750 deaths and an estimated  
8 56,700 new cases of pancreatic cancer are expected to occur in  
9 the United States; and

10       WHEREAS, Organizations such as the Pancreatic Cancer Action  
11 Network and the National Pancreas Foundation are committed to  
12 helping and empowering patients suffering from pancreatic  
13 cancer, focusing efforts on public policy, research funding,  
14 patient services and public awareness, and developing effective  
15 treatments and a cure for pancreatic cancer; and

16       WHEREAS, "Pancreatic Cancer Awareness Month" is celebrated  
17 each November to highlight awareness efforts and strengthen the  
18 voices speaking out about pancreatic cancer; and

19       WHEREAS, The good health and well-being of the residents of  
20 this Commonwealth are enhanced as a direct result of increased  
21 awareness about pancreatic cancer and research regarding early  
22 detection, causes and effective treatments; therefore be it

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

26       RESOLVED, That the House of Representatives strongly support  
27 educational activities and programs designed to strengthen  
28 awareness and support those living with pancreatic cancer.