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THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF PENNSYLVANIA

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HOUSE RESOLUTION

No. 611 Session of  
2019

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INTRODUCED BY KINSEY, A. DAVIS, BURNS, JONES, BIZZARRO, KORTZ,  
RYAN, JOZWIAK, MOUL, MILLARD, ROTHMAN, MURT, LONGIETTI AND  
HILL-EVANS, NOVEMBER 14, 2019

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REFERRED TO COMMITTEE ON HUMAN SERVICES, NOVEMBER 14, 2019

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A RESOLUTION

1 Designating the month of November 2019 as "NovemBEARD Month" in  
2 Pennsylvania.

3 WHEREAS, During "NovemBEARD Month," also known as "No-Shave  
4 November," participants forgo shaving and grooming for the  
5 entire month of November to promote cancer awareness and bring  
6 attention to men's health issues; and

7 WHEREAS, Prostate cancer develops in the prostate gland and  
8 is the most common cancer found in American men, other than skin  
9 cancer; and

10 WHEREAS, The American Cancer Society estimates that during  
11 2019, approximately 175,000 individuals in the United States  
12 will have been diagnosed with prostate cancer; and

13 WHEREAS, Approximately one in nine men in the United States  
14 will be diagnosed with prostate cancer during his lifetime; and

15 WHEREAS, Prostate cancer usually grows slowly and may not  
16 cause serious harm, while other cases may be more aggressive and  
17 spread quickly; and

1       WHEREAS, Prostate cancer that is detected early has a better  
2 chance of successful treatment, but men may still face side  
3 effects and other issues that lead to lower quality of life; and

4       WHEREAS, Death from prostate cancer is the second-leading  
5 cause of cancer deaths among American men, only behind lung  
6 cancer; and

7       WHEREAS, Medical research has further shown that racial  
8 disparities exist among men who have prostate cancer; and

9       WHEREAS, Black men are more likely to develop prostate cancer  
10 during their lifetimes than white men; and

11       WHEREAS, Death rates are almost twice as high for black men  
12 than white men, with 1 in 25 succumbing to the disease as  
13 opposed to 1 in 45 white men; and

14       WHEREAS, Most men are susceptible to developing prostate  
15 cancer when they are older, with 66 years of age being the  
16 average age at diagnosis; and

17       WHEREAS, In this Commonwealth, prostate cancer is the most  
18 frequently diagnosed cancer in men and the third-most common  
19 cause of cancer-related deaths among males; and

20       WHEREAS, The Northwest and Southeast regions have the highest  
21 incidents of prostate cancer in this Commonwealth; and

22       WHEREAS, In recent years, the counties with the highest  
23 totals of prostate cancer cases have been Philadelphia,  
24 Allegheny, Montgomery, Bucks and Delaware; and

25       WHEREAS, During the 2015-2016 legislative session, the  
26 Prostate Cancer Task Force was established to investigate and  
27 raise awareness about prostate cancer throughout this  
28 Commonwealth; and

29       WHEREAS, "NovemBEARD Month" is an opportunity to encourage  
30 participants across this Commonwealth to forgo shaving for the

1 entire month of November to spread awareness about cancer and  
2 men's health issues; therefore be it

3       RESOLVED, That the House of Representatives designate the  
4 month of November 2019 as "NovemBEARD Month" in Pennsylvania.