
THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF PENNSYLVANIA

HOUSE RESOLUTION

No. 682 Session of
2020

INTRODUCED BY DONATUCCI, BIZZARRO, SAINATO, SCHLOSSBERG,
LONGIETTI, COX, KORTZ, FREEMAN, BURNS, MURT, MILLARD, HILL-
EVANS, KIM, McNEILL, KINSEY, BROWN, RYAN, GAINNEY, SCHMITT,
SONNEY, McCLINTON, BROOKS, DeLUCA, GALLOWAY, ROEBUCK,
PICKETT, SCHWEYER, SIMS AND PASHINSKI, JANUARY 21, 2020

REFERRED TO COMMITTEE ON HEALTH, JANUARY 21, 2020

A RESOLUTION

1 Recognizing the month of January 2020 as "Cervical Cancer
2 Awareness Month" in Pennsylvania.

3 WHEREAS, Each year, approximately 14 million people acquire
4 human papillomavirus, which is estimated to be responsible for
5 causing 90% of all cervical cancers; and

6 WHEREAS, With routine and accurate screening, cervical cancer
7 is highly preventable; and

8 WHEREAS, Widespread screening has reduced mortality rates for
9 individuals with cervical cancer, yet the number of deaths is
10 still significant, despite advanced medical techniques and
11 evaluative procedures; and

12 WHEREAS, Cervical cancer rates in the United States are
13 affected by education, access to routine cervical cancer
14 screening and screening accuracy; and

15 WHEREAS, Experience shows that increasing cervical cancer
16 awareness among individuals, especially those who belong to

1 lower socioeconomic groups, significantly reduces the
2 probability of mortality; and

3 WHEREAS, Cervical cancer disproportionately affects the
4 African American community and persons of color with reduced
5 access to routine screenings; and

6 WHEREAS, Approximately half of all cervical cancer cases are
7 in individuals who have never been screened and 10% of cases are
8 in those who have not been screened within the last five years;
9 and

10 WHEREAS, The majority of cervical cancer patients are
11 diagnosed before 50 years of age, the youngest median age for
12 cancers involving the human papillomavirus; and

13 WHEREAS, New screening technologies offer advanced
14 opportunities to eliminate cervical cancer through early
15 identification of individuals who are at an increased risk; and

16 WHEREAS, These technologies include testing approved by the
17 United States Food and Drug Administration for human
18 papillomavirus; and

19 WHEREAS, The United States Food and Drug Administration has
20 approved a vaccine for human papillomavirus, for all genders,
21 with recommended inoculation beginning at 9 years of age to 45
22 years of age, that prevents infection by four strains of human
23 papillomavirus to prevent most cases of cervical cancer; and

24 WHEREAS, The Centers for Disease Control and Prevention and
25 the Advisory Committee on Immunization Practices have jointly
26 recommended the use of the human papillomavirus vaccine for
27 adolescents and young adults, for all genders, between 9 and 45
28 years of age; and

29 WHEREAS, People are entitled to accurate information relating
30 to cervical cancer so that they can make informed health care

1 decisions and can access accurate screening and vaccination; and

2 WHEREAS, Individuals living in this Commonwealth between 21
3 and 64 years of age who are underinsured or uninsured may be
4 eligible for free screening for cervical cancer through the
5 Department of Health's Breast and Cervical Cancer Early
6 Detection Program; and

7 WHEREAS, People in Pennsylvania under 65 years of age who are
8 uninsured and in need of treatment for cervical cancer or a
9 precancerous condition of the cervix may be eligible for full
10 health care benefits through the Breast and Cervical Cancer
11 Prevention and Treatment Program of the Department of Human
12 Services; and

13 WHEREAS, This Commonwealth recognizes that through education
14 and screening individuals can drastically reduce the incidence
15 of cervical cancer and that with early detection cervical cancer
16 can be successfully treated; therefore be it

17 RESOLVED, That the House of Representatives recognize the
18 month of January 2020 as "Cervical Cancer Awareness Month" in
19 Pennsylvania; and be it further

20 RESOLVED, That "Cervical Cancer Awareness Month" be
21 recognized to increase awareness among Pennsylvanians, their
22 families, health care providers and policymakers of the risks,
23 prevalence and treatability of cervical cancer and the
24 importance of early access to accurate screening.