
THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF PENNSYLVANIA

HOUSE RESOLUTION

No. 714 Session of
2020

INTRODUCED BY DONATUCCI, KINSEY, BIZZARRO, BARRAR, HILL-EVANS,
RYAN, BURNS, BROWN, SCHMITT, McNEILL, SHUSTERMAN, KIM,
LONGIETTI, BROOKS, PICKETT, MURT, FREEMAN, NEILSON, KORTZ,
ULLMAN, SCHLOSSBERG, PYLE, PASHINSKI, YOUNGBLOOD, READSHAW,
SCHLEGEL CULVER, CONKLIN, SONNEY, EVERETT, MILLARD,
McCLINTON, McCARTER, SAYLOR, SAINATO AND ROZZI,
FEBRUARY 3, 2020

REFERRED TO COMMITTEE ON HUMAN SERVICES, FEBRUARY 3, 2020

A RESOLUTION

1 Recognizing the month of February 2020 as "National Cancer
2 Prevention Month" in Pennsylvania.

3 WHEREAS, In recent years, the United States has achieved
4 great progress in the fight against cancer; and

5 WHEREAS, Research and medical advances have opened new
6 opportunities for cancer prevention research, with many forms of
7 cancer becoming more preventable, detectable and treatable than
8 ever before, giving increased optimism for effective cancer
9 control; and

10 WHEREAS, The cancer death rate in the United States fell 2.2%
11 from 2016 to 2017, the largest single-year decline in cancer
12 mortality ever reported, largely due to reduced smoking rates
13 and advances in lung cancer treatment; and

14 WHEREAS, Nevertheless, cancer remains the second leading
15 cause of death in the United States according to the Centers for

1 Disease Control and Prevention; and

2 WHEREAS, According to the American Cancer Society, in 2019,
3 there were an estimated 1,762,450 new cancer cases diagnosed and
4 606,880 deaths from cancer in the United States; and

5 WHEREAS, According to the American Cancer Society, in 2020,
6 it is estimated that there will be 80,240 new cancer cases and
7 27,860 cancer deaths in Pennsylvania; and

8 WHEREAS, Tobacco products, diets high in saturated fat,
9 obesity, excess radiation through sunlight, a lack of physical
10 activity, nutritional deficiencies, excess alcohol use,
11 occupational exposure to certain chemicals, infectious diseases,
12 a family history of cancer, inherited syndromes, reproductive
13 history or hormonal status and immunosuppression are some of the
14 suggestive risk factors associated with cancer; and

15 WHEREAS, According to a recent survey commissioned by the
16 American Institute for Cancer Research, fewer than half of
17 Americans recognize that alcohol, processed meat, high amounts
18 of red meat, low amounts of fruits and vegetables and not enough
19 physical activity all have clear links to cancer development;
20 and

21 WHEREAS, It is estimated that one-third of cases of the most
22 common cancers in the United States could be prevented by eating
23 healthy, being active and staying lean; and

24 WHEREAS, Early detection of some cancers can prevent the
25 disease from reaching an advanced, potentially fatal stage; and

26 WHEREAS, Screening offers the opportunity for secondary
27 prevention by detecting cancer early, before symptoms appear;
28 and

29 WHEREAS, In the last decade, several important advances in
30 treating lung cancer, which kills more people than breast,

1 prostate, colorectal and brain cancers combined, have helped
2 avert patient deaths, including imaging technologies, less
3 invasive surgical approaches and immunotherapy; and

4 WHEREAS, Regular screening tests may find certain cancers
5 early, when they are easier to treat and before they have spread
6 to other areas of the body; and

7 WHEREAS, The United States Preventive Services Task Force
8 makes evidence-based recommendations about clinical preventive
9 services, including screenings for lung, colorectal, cervical
10 and breast cancer; and

11 WHEREAS, There is much that can be done at individual,
12 community and governmental levels to harness and mobilize cancer
13 prevention campaigns and catalyze positive change; therefore be
14 it

15 RESOLVED, That the House of Representatives recognize the
16 month of February 2020 as "National Cancer Prevention Month" in
17 Pennsylvania and call for an optimistic and proactive approach
18 to the fight against cancer, emphasizing that solutions do exist
19 across the continuum of cancer and that they are within the
20 reach of the residents of this Commonwealth.