
THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF PENNSYLVANIA

SENATE RESOLUTION

No. 44 Session of
2019

INTRODUCED BY MARTIN, AUMENT, K. WARD, ARGALL, BROWNE, DINNIMAN,
PHILLIPS-HILL, LANGERHOLC, BARTOLOTTA, FOLMER, VOGEL,
KILLION, HUTCHINSON, FONTANA AND SCHWANK, MARCH 20, 2019

INTRODUCED AND ADOPTED, MARCH 20, 2019

A RESOLUTION

1 Designating March 21, 2019, as "World Down Syndrome Day" in
2 Pennsylvania.

3 WHEREAS, Down syndrome is a genetic condition that occurs in
4 approximately 1 in 1,100 live births worldwide according to the
5 World Health Organization; and

6 WHEREAS, It is difficult to determine the number of
7 individuals currently living with Down syndrome worldwide,
8 however, some sources estimate the number to be more than 6
9 million; and

10 WHEREAS, The most common form of Down syndrome, trisomy 21,
11 is due to an error in cell division, just prior to or during
12 conception, with the 21st chromosome dividing in three instead
13 of two, resulting in a person being born with 47 instead of 46
14 chromosomes in each cell; and

15 WHEREAS, Early intervention, appropriate speech, physical and
16 occupational therapies and quality education programs enable
17 individuals with Down syndrome to adapt and thrive; and

1 WHEREAS, Thanks to advances in medical treatments and
2 continuing research, life expectancy for individuals with Down
3 syndrome worldwide has increased dramatically, with a large
4 majority living beyond 50 years of age; and

5 WHEREAS, Individuals with Down syndrome consistently prove
6 their ability to overcome obstacles; and

7 WHEREAS, With interventions and programs and the support of
8 family and community, individuals with Down syndrome attend
9 school and participate in postsecondary opportunities, with many
10 going on to college, obtaining full-time employment, entering
11 into marriage and fully participating in their communities; and

12 WHEREAS, Individuals living with Down syndrome have excelled
13 in various fields, including becoming global influencers,
14 fashion designers, lobbyists, accomplished musicians, teachers,
15 leaders of large nonprofits and small business entrepreneurs;
16 therefore be it

17 RESOLVED, That the Senate designate March 21, 2019, as "World
18 Down Syndrome Day" in Pennsylvania, recognizing the numerous
19 contributions that individuals with Down syndrome and their
20 families make not only in our great Commonwealth, but across the
21 globe.