
THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF PENNSYLVANIA

SENATE RESOLUTION

No. 112 Session of
2019

INTRODUCED BY DINNIMAN, J. WARD, FONTANA, SCHWANK, MARTIN,
BLAKE, PHILLIPS-HILL, FOLMER, BROWNE AND BREWSTER,
MAY 6, 2019

INTRODUCED AND ADOPTED, MAY 6, 2019

A RESOLUTION

1 Recognizing the month of May 15 through June 15, 2019, as
2 "Tourette Syndrome Awareness Month" in Pennsylvania.

3 WHEREAS, An estimated 3 in every 1000 children between 6 and
4 17 years of age in the United States and this Commonwealth are
5 diagnosed with Tourette syndrome, a neurobiological, genetic
6 condition which has no cure; and

7 WHEREAS, Tourette syndrome is a life-long developmental
8 disability that begins before a child reaches 18 years of age
9 and affects children and adults of all races and ethnicities;
10 and

11 WHEREAS, Individuals with Tourette syndrome are affected by
12 "tics" which are involuntary, rapid, sudden movements or
13 vocalizations that occur repeatedly; and

14 WHEREAS, Individuals with Tourette syndrome face periodic
15 changes in the nature and severity of their tics, as these
16 symptoms wax and wane and change without forewarning; and

17 WHEREAS, Individuals with Tourette syndrome frequently have

1 co-occurring conditions that further complicate their care and
2 diagnosis, including attention deficit disorder, attention
3 deficit hyperactivity disorder, obsessive-compulsive disorder,
4 mood disorders, learning disabilities, handwriting difficulties,
5 executive function disorder and sensory processing disorder; and

6 WHEREAS, Individuals with Tourette syndrome are frequently
7 misunderstood by their families, educators, the community and
8 even by medical professionals due to their ever-changing
9 symptoms which at times seem controllable; and

10 WHEREAS, Tourette syndrome has historically been
11 misinterpreted and considered to be a condition of emotional
12 disturbance instead of a condition of chemical biology; and

13 WHEREAS, Individuals with Tourette syndrome are often teased
14 and not accepted by their peers and by the general public; and

15 WHEREAS, Children with Tourette syndrome are often
16 disciplined for manifestations of their disability by educators
17 who fail to understand that the child is unable to control his
18 or her tics and that the child may be delayed in his or her
19 maturity and emotional responses; therefore be it

20 RESOLVED, That the Senate recognize the month of May 15
21 through June 15, 2019, as "Tourette Syndrome Awareness Month" in
22 Pennsylvania.