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THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF PENNSYLVANIA

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SENATE RESOLUTION

No. 124 Session of  
2019

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INTRODUCED BY KILLION, FARNESE, BREWSTER, BLAKE, VOGEL, FONTANA,  
BAKER, A. WILLIAMS, J. WARD, K. WARD, DINNIMAN, MARTIN,  
BARTOLOTTA, ARGALL, TARTAGLIONE, BROWNE, AUMENT, COSTA,  
MENSCH, HUGHES, FOLMER, SCHWANK AND HUTCHINSON, MAY 8, 2019

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INTRODUCED AND ADOPTED, MAY 8, 2019

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A RESOLUTION

1 Recognizing the month of May 2019 as "Lupus Awareness Month" and  
2 May 10, 2019, as "World Lupus Day" in Pennsylvania to give  
3 more attention and awareness to the disease.

4 WHEREAS, Every day, an estimated 65,000 Pennsylvanians, 1.5  
5 million Americans and 5 million people worldwide struggle with  
6 the debilitating consequences of lupus, a potentially fatal  
7 autoimmune disease that can damage any part of a lupus patient's  
8 body; and

9 WHEREAS, In an autoimmune disease such as lupus, the immune  
10 system becomes hyperactive and attacks healthy cells, causing  
11 inflammation and pain and leading to permanent damage; and

12 WHEREAS, Lupus has no cure and no known cause and, despite  
13 the current treatment and available medications, many lupus  
14 patients have symptoms that cannot be managed well enough for  
15 patients to lead normal lives, complete their education and  
16 maintain employment; and

17 WHEREAS, Nine out of ten people with lupus are women; and

1       WHEREAS, New cases of lupus are diagnosed among women between  
2 15 and 44 years of age about 80% of the time, with the majority  
3 of new cases seen in women in their late teens and early 20s;  
4 and

5       WHEREAS, Although the disease is most frequently seen in  
6 female patients, individuals of any age or gender can develop  
7 lupus; and

8       WHEREAS, Lupus was identified as a disease in 1872 but is an  
9 underrecognized public health problem that attracts rare  
10 attention and funding for research for a cure; and

11       WHEREAS, Lupus is often referred to as the disease that fools  
12 due to the patient's unawareness of its presence for extended  
13 periods of time; and

14       WHEREAS, The Lupus Foundation of America Philadelphia Tri-  
15 State Chapter, a nonprofit volunteer health organization with a  
16 history of service since the early 1970s, provides supportive  
17 services to the victims of lupus, funds medical research into  
18 the disease's causes and possible treatments and educates the  
19 public concerning the realities of lupus; therefore be it

20       RESOLVED, That the Senate recognize the month of May 2019 as  
21 "Lupus Awareness Month" and May 10, 2019, as "World Lupus Day"  
22 in Pennsylvania to give more attention and awareness to the  
23 disease.