
THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF PENNSYLVANIA

SENATE RESOLUTION

No. 137 Session of
2019

INTRODUCED BY PHILLIPS-HILL, BARTOLOTTA, MUTH, ARGALL, BREWSTER,
FONTANA, STREET, VOGEL, LEACH, SCHWANK, BROWNE AND COLLETT,
MAY 8, 2019

INTRODUCED AND ADOPTED, MAY 8, 2019

A RESOLUTION

1 Designating the month of May 2019 as "Cystic Fibrosis Awareness
2 Month" in Pennsylvania.

3 WHEREAS, Cystic fibrosis (CF) is a genetic disease affecting
4 approximately 30,000 children and adults in the United States
5 and approximately 70,000 children and adults worldwide, 1,502 of
6 whom live in this Commonwealth; and

7 WHEREAS, A defective gene causes the body to produce an
8 abnormally thick, sticky mucus that clogs the lungs, and these
9 secretions produce life-threatening lung infections and obstruct
10 the pancreas, preventing digestive enzymes from reaching the
11 intestines to help break down and absorb food; and

12 WHEREAS, More than 10 million Americans are symptomless
13 carriers of the defective CF gene; and

14 WHEREAS, CF occurs in approximately 1 out of every 3,500 live
15 births in the United States; and

16 WHEREAS, Approximately 1,000 new cases of CF are diagnosed
17 each year; and

1 WHEREAS, The median age of survival for an individual with CF
2 is increasing; and

3 WHEREAS, With advances in the treatment of CF, the number of
4 adults with CF has steadily grown; and

5 WHEREAS, Approximately 50% of the CF population is 18 years
6 of age or older, and individuals with CF have a variety of
7 symptoms attributed to the more than 1,800 mutations of the CF
8 gene; and

9 WHEREAS, Infant blood screening to detect genetic defects is
10 the most reliable and least costly method to identify
11 individuals likely to have CF; and

12 WHEREAS, Early diagnosis of CF permits early treatment and
13 enhances quality of life and longevity, and the treatment of CF
14 depends on the stage of the disease and the organs involved; and

15 WHEREAS, Clearing mucus from the lungs is an important part
16 of the daily CF treatment regimen, and other types of treatments
17 include inhaled antibiotics and pancreatic enzymes, among
18 others; and

19 WHEREAS, There are 12 world-class treatment centers in this
20 Commonwealth that specialize in the diagnosis of CF and the care
21 of individuals with CF; and

22 WHEREAS, Improving the length and quality of life for
23 individuals with CF starts with awareness; therefore be it

24 RESOLVED, That the Senate designate the month of May 2019 as
25 "Cystic Fibrosis Awareness Month" in Pennsylvania.