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THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF PENNSYLVANIA

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# SENATE RESOLUTION

No. 207 Session of  
2019

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INTRODUCED BY TOMLINSON, KILLION, MARTIN, BARTOLOTTA, DINNIMAN,  
FONTANA, BOSCOLA, J. WARD, AUMENT, VOGEL, FARNESE, BREWSTER,  
BROWNE, BLAKE AND MASTRIANO, SEPTEMBER 24, 2019

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INTRODUCED AND ADOPTED, SEPTEMBER 24, 2019

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A RESOLUTION

1 Recognizing the month of October 2019 as "Dyslexia Awareness  
2 Month" in Pennsylvania.

3 WHEREAS, Developmental reading disorder, or dyslexia, is a  
4 language-based learning disability that occurs when there is a  
5 problem in areas of the brain that help interpret language; and

6 WHEREAS, Dyslexia's symptoms include slow or inaccurate  
7 reading, poor spelling, poor writing or mixing up similar words;  
8 and

9 WHEREAS, Problems experienced by people with dyslexia may  
10 include:

11 (1) confusing letters or having difficulty learning the  
12 sounds that go with letters;

13 (2) having trouble learning how to speak, recognizing  
14 words or determining the meaning of a simple sentence; and

15 (3) having trouble processing the sounds of language,  
16 such as rhyming;

17 and

1       WHEREAS, Dyslexia can include disorganization of written and  
2 spoken language or struggles in comprehending and concentrating  
3 on longer reading assignments; and

4       WHEREAS, Dyslexia may also include difficulty in correctly  
5 performing math operations, memorizing number facts or learning  
6 a foreign language; and

7       WHEREAS, Dyslexia is a specific information processing  
8 problem that does not interfere with one's ability to think or  
9 understand complex ideas; and

10       WHEREAS, Dyslexia is not caused by a lack of desire to learn  
11 and affects people of all backgrounds and intellectual levels,  
12 with the majority of individuals being of normal intelligence  
13 and many being above average intelligence; and

14       WHEREAS, Students with dyslexia are likely to struggle with  
15 many aspects of academic learning, are at a higher risk of  
16 dropping out of school entirely and often go years without being  
17 properly diagnosed; and

18       WHEREAS, Aside from problems in school, an individual with  
19 dyslexia can experience a loss of self-esteem and general  
20 reading problems that may persist into adulthood, which can  
21 affect the individual's job performance; and

22       WHEREAS, According to the International Dyslexia Association,  
23 approximately 85% of students classified as having a primary  
24 learning disability have difficulty in reading and language  
25 processing; and

26       WHEREAS, The number of people having some symptoms of  
27 dyslexia is much higher, perhaps as much as 15% to 20% of the  
28 entire United States population; and

29       WHEREAS, There is much hope for students who are correctly  
30 diagnosed with this disorder, as they can successfully learn

1 with appropriate teaching methods; and

2 WHEREAS, The earlier that dyslexia is diagnosed, the better  
3 for the student; and

4 WHEREAS, Dyslexia is a disorder that often manifests among  
5 members of the same family; and

6 WHEREAS, While dyslexia affects individuals throughout their  
7 lives, its impact can change at different stages of life; and

8 WHEREAS, Dyslexia is an often misunderstood language-based  
9 disability, and a large percentage of residents of this  
10 Commonwealth experience one or more symptoms of this disorder;  
11 therefore be it

12 RESOLVED, That the Senate recognize the month of October 2019  
13 as "Dyslexia Awareness Month" in Pennsylvania.