PRINTER'S NO. 1281

THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF PENNSYLVANIA

SENATE RESOLUTION

No. 249 Session of 2019

INTRODUCED BY J. WARD, MASTRIANO, DINNIMAN, FONTANA, STREET, IOVINO, MARTIN, PHILLIPS-HILL, BREWSTER, BAKER, BROWNE, TARTAGLIONE AND SCHWANK, OCTOBER 21, 2019

INTRODUCED AND ADOPTED, OCTOBER 21, 2019

A RESOLUTION

Recognizing September 7, 2019, as "World Duchenne Awareness Day" in Pennsylvania.

WHEREAS, Duchenne muscular dystrophy (Duchenne) is the most common fatal genetic disorder diagnosed in childhood, affecting approximately one in every 5,000 live male births each year; and

WHEREAS, The Duchenne gene is found on the x-chromosome and while it primarily affects boys, it occurs across all races and cultures; and

WHEREAS, Duchenne results in progressive loss of strength and is caused by a mutation in the gene that encodes for dystrophin; and

WHEREAS, Because dystrophin is absent, the muscle cells are easily damaged and the progressive muscle weakness leads to serious medical problems, particularly issues relating to the heart and lungs; and

WHEREAS, People with Duchenne typically live into their late twenties; and

WHEREAS, Duchenne can be passed from parent to child, but approximately 35% of cases occurs because of a random spontaneous mutation, which means it can affect anyone; and

WHEREAS, Although there are medical treatments that may help slow its progression, there is currently no cure for Duchenne; and

WHEREAS, Because it is a rare disease, one of our greatest tools in the fight to end Duchenne is raising awareness; and

WHEREAS, On September 7, 2019, the fifth "World Duchenne Awareness Day," took place and Duchenne organizations around the world raised awareness for all people living with Duchenne muscular dystrophy; therefore be it

RESOLVED, That the Senate recognize September 7, 2019, as "World Duchenne Awareness Day" in Pennsylvania and encourage the residents of this Commonwealth to increase their understanding and awareness of Duchenne muscular dystrophy.