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THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF PENNSYLVANIA

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HOUSE RESOLUTION

No. 146 Session of  
2021

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INTRODUCED BY NEILSON, OCTOBER 5, 2021

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REFERRED TO COMMITTEE ON HEALTH, OCTOBER 5, 2021

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A RESOLUTION

1 Designating the month of October 2021 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  
8 words; and

9 WHEREAS, Problems experienced by people with dyslexia may  
10 include confusing letters or having difficulty learning the  
11 sounds that go with letters, having trouble learning how to  
12 speak, recognizing words or determining the meaning of a simple  
13 sentence and having trouble processing the sounds of language,  
14 such as rhyming; and

15 WHEREAS, Dyslexia can include disorganization of written and  
16 spoken language or struggles in comprehending and concentrating  
17 on longer reading assignments; and

18 WHEREAS, Dyslexia may also include difficulty in correctly

1 performing math operations, memorizing number facts or learning  
2 a foreign language; and

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

6 WHEREAS, Dyslexia is not caused by a lack of desire to learn  
7 and affects people of all backgrounds and intellectual levels,  
8 with the majority of individuals being of normal intelligence  
9 and many being above average in intelligence; and

10 WHEREAS, Students with dyslexia are likely to struggle with  
11 many aspects of academic learning, are at a higher risk of  
12 dropping out of school entirely and often go for years without  
13 being properly diagnosed; and

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

18 WHEREAS, According to the International Dyslexia  
19 Association, approximately 85% of students classified as having  
20 a primary learning disability have difficulty in reading and  
21 language processing; and

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

25 WHEREAS, There is hope for students who are correctly  
26 diagnosed with this disorder, as they can successfully learn  
27 with appropriate teaching methods; and

28 WHEREAS, The earlier that dyslexia is diagnosed, the better  
29 the outcome is for the student; and

30 WHEREAS, Dyslexia is a disorder that often manifests among

1 members of the same family; and

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

4 WHEREAS, Dyslexia is an often misunderstood language-based  
5 disability, and a large percentage of residents of this  
6 Commonwealth experience one or more symptoms of this disorder;  
7 therefore be it

8 RESOLVED, That the House of Representatives designate the  
9 month of October 2021 as "Dyslexia Awareness Month" in  
10 Pennsylvania.