THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF PENNSYLVANIA

SENATE RESOLUTION

No. 58

Session of 2021

INTRODUCED BY HUTCHINSON, BROWNE, HUGHES, VOGEL, BARTOLOTTA, KANE, FONTANA, STREET, J. WARD, MASTRIANO, KEARNEY, PITTMAN, MARTIN, PHILLIPS-HILL, MENSCH, COMITTA AND SCHWANK, MARCH 25, 2021

REFERRED TO RULES AND EXECUTIVE NOMINATIONS, MARCH 25, 2021

A RESOLUTION

- 1 Raising awareness for apraxia in Pennsylvania.
- 2 WHEREAS, Childhood apraxia of speech is a challenging and
- 3 complicated neurological speech disorder affecting children; and
- 4 WHEREAS, This disorder makes it difficult or impossible for
- 5 children to accurately produce sounds, syllables or words
- 6 despite knowing what they want to say and having a good
- 7 understanding of language; and
- 8 WHEREAS, Little is known about apraxia, which has no known
- 9 cause; and
- 10 WHEREAS, Apraxia has no cure and much more research into this
- 11 disorder is needed; and
- 12 WHEREAS, Parents whose children have been diagnosed with
- 13 apraxia and many speech therapists who work with those children
- 14 have emphasized the importance of early intervention and the
- 15 significant impact it can have on speech development in
- 16 children; and

- 1 WHEREAS, The American Speech-Language-Hearing Association
- 2 reports that the number of children diagnosed with childhood
- 3 apraxia of speech is on the rise; and
- 4 WHEREAS, Research shows that children with childhood apraxia
- 5 of speech have more success when they receive frequent and
- 6 intensive treatment; and
- 7 WHEREAS, Children and adults may be diagnosed with apraxia;
- 8 therefore be it
- 9 RESOLVED, That the Senate raise awareness for apraxia in
- 10 Pennsylvania; and be it further
- 11 RESOLVED, That the Senate seek to give a voice to those who
- 12 have been diagnosed with apraxia, raise awareness of apraxia and
- 13 strengthen the support systems for children with apraxia so that
- 14 each child is afforded the best opportunity to develop speech.