
THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF PENNSYLVANIA

SENATE RESOLUTION

No. 62 Session of
2021

INTRODUCED BY SANTARSIERO, BROWNE, PHILLIPS-HILL, BARTOLOTTA,
FONTANA, KEARNEY, COLLETT, HUGHES, COSTA, STREET, MARTIN,
HUTCHINSON, COMITTA, MENSCH, J. WARD AND HAYWOOD,
APRIL 9, 2021

REFERRED TO RULES AND EXECUTIVE NOMINATIONS, APRIL 9, 2021

A RESOLUTION

1 Recognizing the month of April 2021 as "World HIE Awareness
2 Month" in Pennsylvania.

3 WHEREAS, All residents of this Commonwealth should be aware
4 that 20 out of every 1,000 live births are impacted by hypoxic
5 ischemic encephalopathy (HIE); and

6 WHEREAS, Thousands of families are affected by HIE worldwide
7 and only a small fraction of them find the psychosocial support
8 they need to tackle the challenges their children may face as a
9 result of HIE; and

10 WHEREAS, HIE occurs when the brain is deprived of oxygen from
11 various causes, including placental insufficiency, uterine
12 rupture, umbilical cord knots, cord compression, low maternal
13 blood pressure, trauma during delivery, aneurysm rupture and
14 near sudden infant death syndrome events; and

15 WHEREAS, Between 70% to 80% of infants born with HIE survive,
16 however, of those who survive, 50% to 70% experience seizures,
17 and 30% to 40% develop a developmental disability, including

1 cerebral palsy, epilepsy, vision loss, hearing loss, feeding
2 issues and cognitive or speech delays; and

3 WHEREAS, The impact of each child's injury is unique and
4 based on multiple factors, including which parts of the brain
5 are impacted and the severity of the oxygen deprivation; and

6 WHEREAS, Hope for HIE is an organization which supports and
7 connects families affected by HIE; and

8 WHEREAS, Hope for HIE provides resources, information, advice
9 and personalized support to families affected by HIE; and

10 WHEREAS, Through Hope for HIE, families touched by an HIE
11 diagnosis are given access to a community that shares experience
12 with HIE and where families feel that they are supported; and

13 WHEREAS, The goal of "World HIE Awareness Month" is to
14 educate and connect families affected by HIE; therefore be it

15 RESOLVED, That the Senate recognize the month of April 2021
16 as "World HIE Awareness Month" in Pennsylvania.