
THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF PENNSYLVANIA

SENATE RESOLUTION

No. 171 Session of
2021

INTRODUCED BY TARTAGLIONE, HUGHES, J. WARD, KANE, MARTIN, COSTA,
MUTH, COMITTA, BARTOLOTTA, SCHWANK, FONTANA, STREET, BROOKS,
SCAVELLO, KEARNEY, GORDNER, STEFANO, MENSCH AND CAPPELLETTI,
SEPTEMBER 17, 2021

REFERRED TO RULES AND EXECUTIVE NOMINATIONS, SEPTEMBER 17, 2021

A RESOLUTION

1 Recognizing the month of September 2021 as "National Spinal Cord
2 Injury Awareness Month" in Pennsylvania.

3 WHEREAS, Approximately 17,000 spinal cord injuries occur in
4 the United States each year; and

5 WHEREAS, Approximately 294,000 Americans, including 40,000
6 veterans, have spinal cord injuries; and

7 WHEREAS, Spinal cord injuries often result in paralysis of
8 either the lower body, paraplegia, or the upper and lower body,
9 quadriplegia, and often can cause respiratory illness, sleep
10 apnea, a form of high blood pressure known as autonomic
11 dysreflexia, inability to regulate body temperature, chronic
12 pain and impaired use of bladder, bowel and reproductive organs;
13 and

14 WHEREAS, Spinal cord injury may increase an individual's risk
15 for osteoporosis, obesity, high cholesterol and diabetes, making
16 physical activity especially important to the physical and
17 emotional well-being of individuals with spinal cord injuries;

1 and

2 WHEREAS, Every 48 minutes another individual in the United
3 States becomes paralyzed from a spinal cord injury; and

4 WHEREAS, The Senate affirms the necessity of addressing
5 spinal cord injuries and the particular challenges of spinal
6 cord injury care and recovery for individuals with new or
7 existing injuries and for their loved ones and caregivers; and

8 WHEREAS, The Senate further notes the significance of
9 ensuring access to related resources and benefits, advancing
10 medical research and disseminating public education and
11 outreach; and

12 WHEREAS, "National Spinal Cord Injury Awareness Month" offers
13 an opportunity for individuals to learn about spinal cord
14 injuries, recognize the daily challenges encountered by injured
15 individuals and acknowledge the achievements of Americans living
16 with spinal cord injury; and

17 WHEREAS, The United States Department of Veterans Affairs, a
18 leading advocate for "National Spinal Cord Injury Awareness
19 Month," offers inpatient, outpatient, home care and respite care
20 services as well as specialty health care programs for
21 individuals living with a spinal cord injury and facilitates the
22 progress of related research through its network of specialized
23 care centers and primary care teams; and

24 WHEREAS, The Buoniconti Fund, in furtherance of its work
25 addressing spinal cord injury awareness and its national and
26 international objectives related to curing paralysis, is urging
27 all individuals in our communities to support its campaign;
28 therefore be it

29 RESOLVED, That the Senate recognize the month of September
30 2021 as "National Spinal Cord Injury Awareness Month" in

1 Pennsylvania.