
THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF PENNSYLVANIA

SENATE RESOLUTION

No. 204 Session of
2021

INTRODUCED BY MARTIN, BROWNE, MENSCH, ARGALL, PHILLIPS-HILL,
HUTCHINSON, PITTMAN, BROOKS, MASTRIANO, COSTA, BREWSTER,
STREET, COMMITTA, FONTANA, HUGHES AND SCHWANK,
NOVEMBER 5, 2021

REFERRED TO RULES AND EXECUTIVE NOMINATIONS, NOVEMBER 5, 2021

A RESOLUTION

1 Recognizing November 14, 2021, as "World Diabetes Day" in
2 Pennsylvania.

3 WHEREAS, The Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC)
4 defines diabetes as a chronic disease that affects one's ability
5 to process food into energy properly; and

6 WHEREAS, The inability to process food properly affects an
7 individual's ability to create enough insulin or fully utilize
8 the individual's own insulin; and

9 WHEREAS, Over time, abnormalities with insulin levels can
10 lead to serious health complications, including heart disease,
11 stroke, kidney disease, blindness, limb amputations and early
12 death; and

13 WHEREAS, There are three main types of diabetes: Type 1, Type
14 2 and gestational diabetes; and

15 WHEREAS, Risk factors for diabetes include genetic factors,
16 high blood pressure, low HDL cholesterol or high triglycerides,
17 gestational diabetes during pregnancy, being 45 years of age or

1 older, being a member of a high-risk ethnic group, being
2 overweight and having an inactive lifestyle; and

3 WHEREAS, According to the National Diabetes Statistics Report
4 of 2020 released by the CDC, approximately 34.2 million
5 individuals, or roughly 10.5% of the United States population,
6 live with the disease; and

7 WHEREAS, Of this number, approximately 7.3 million, or nearly
8 21%, are undiagnosed; and

9 WHEREAS, Approximately 13% of Pennsylvanians live with some
10 form of diabetes; and

11 WHEREAS, In 2019, the Commonwealth matched overall national
12 statistics with approximately 10.8% of Pennsylvanians being
13 diagnosed with diabetes; and

14 WHEREAS, In 2017, diabetes contributed to over 80,000 deaths
15 nationwide; and

16 WHEREAS, Diabetes was one of the five leading causes of
17 health-related deaths in this Commonwealth in 2017 and the
18 seventh leading cause of death nationwide in 2017; and

19 WHEREAS, The rate of deaths related to diabetes has increased
20 over the past four decades; and

21 WHEREAS, There is currently no cure for diabetes, but an
22 individual's risk of developing Type 2 diabetes can be greatly
23 reduced through a healthy diet, physical activity and
24 medication; and

25 WHEREAS, The majority of avoidable costs associated with
26 treating diabetes result from inpatient hospitalizations and
27 emergency room visits, which could be reduced by proactively
28 managing diabetes-associated conditions in an outpatient
29 setting; and

30 WHEREAS, Approximately \$327 billion was spent in the United

1 States on treating the disease as recently as 2017; and
2 WHEREAS, Management of diabetes and other chronic conditions
3 is a major cost driver for programs such as Medicaid and
4 Medicare; and

5 WHEREAS, "World Diabetes Day" was first introduced by the
6 International Diabetes Federation and the World Health
7 Organization in 1991 to raise awareness of the escalating
8 incidence of diabetes worldwide; and

9 WHEREAS, November 14 of each year was chosen to mark "World
10 Diabetes Day" because it represents the birthday of Frederick
11 Banting, who, along with Charles Best, is credited with the
12 discovery of insulin in 1921; and

13 WHEREAS, "World Diabetes Day" became an official United
14 Nations international observance in 2007 pursuant to the
15 December 2006 resolution of the General Assembly of the United
16 Nations recognizing diabetes as "a chronic, debilitating and
17 costly disease associated with major complications that pose
18 severe risks for families, countries and the entire world";
19 therefore be it

20 RESOLVED, That the Senate recognize November 14, 2021, as
21 "World Diabetes Day" in Pennsylvania; and be it further

22 RESOLVED, That the Senate encourage residents in communities
23 throughout this Commonwealth to recommit to raising awareness of
24 diabetes and the need for education and services for individuals
25 afflicted with diabetes.