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THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF PENNSYLVANIA

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HOUSE RESOLUTION

No. 543 Session of  
2024

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INTRODUCED BY MIHALEK, VENKAT, MARCELL, PICKETT, FREEMAN,  
GALLAGHER, DALEY, R. MACKENZIE, KENYATTA AND SCHMITT,  
SEPTEMBER 30, 2024

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REFERRED TO COMMITTEE ON HEALTH, SEPTEMBER 30, 2024

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A RESOLUTION

1 Designating the month of October 2024 as "Liver Disease  
2 Awareness Month" in Pennsylvania.

3 WHEREAS, Liver disease is any condition that damages the  
4 liver and prevents it from functioning well; and

5 WHEREAS, According to the American Liver Foundation, 4.5  
6 million adults have been diagnosed with liver disease across the  
7 nation; and

8 WHEREAS, More than 50,000 adults die annually from liver  
9 disease in the United States; and

10 WHEREAS, Liver disease has different causes such as viral  
11 infections, genetic conditions, immune system abnormalities and  
12 cancer; and

13 WHEREAS, Factors that increase the risk of liver disease  
14 include, but are not limited to, heavy alcohol use, obesity,  
15 type 2 diabetes, certain medications and a family history of  
16 liver disease; and

17 WHEREAS, Metabolic dysfunction-associated steatotic liver

1 disease (MASLD) is the most common form of liver disease; and

2 WHEREAS, MASLD encompasses patients who have hepatic  
3 steatosis and have at least one of the five cardiometabolic risk  
4 factors; and

5 WHEREAS, Approximately 25% of adults in the United States are  
6 estimated to have MASLD, though many do not know they have the  
7 disease; and

8 WHEREAS, Liver damage is progressive, and if left untreated  
9 can lead to liver cancer and chronic liver failure; and

10 WHEREAS, Severe scarring and permanent damage to the liver is  
11 known as cirrhosis; and

12 WHEREAS, The Centers for Disease Control and Prevention  
13 reported chronic liver disease and cirrhosis as the tenth  
14 leading cause of death in the United States in 2022; and

15 WHEREAS, Treatment options depend on the diagnosis, but can  
16 involve medication, surgery or lifestyle modifications; and

17 WHEREAS, Understanding personal risk for liver disease can  
18 help promote early screening, diagnosis and treatment; and

19 WHEREAS, Public awareness of liver disease encourages all  
20 Commonwealth residents to take positive steps towards improving  
21 liver health; therefore be it

22 RESOLVED, That the House of Representatives designate the  
23 month of October 2024 as "Liver Disease Awareness Month" in  
24 Pennsylvania.