

THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF PENNSYLVANIA

HOUSE RESOLUTION

No. 24 Session of 2015

INTRODUCED BY D. COSTA, HENNESSEY, COHEN, SCHLOSSBERG,
 LONGIETTI, O'NEILL, CALTAGIRONE, KINSEY, FREEMAN, YOUNGBLOOD,
 HARHART, MILLARD, BIZZARRO, BOBACK, KIM, KORTZ, MURT, VEREB,
 DeLUCA, DiGIROLAMO, GOODMAN, MARSICO, ROSS, BROWNLEE,
 WHEELAND, READSHAW, MAJOR, DONATUCCI, McCARTER AND MAHONEY,
 JANUARY 21, 2015

INTRODUCED AS NONCONTROVERSIAL RESOLUTION UNDER RULE 35,
 JANUARY 21, 2015

A RESOLUTION

1 Recognizing October 29, 2015, as "Psoriasis Day" in Pennsylvania
 2 on behalf of the many individuals who suffer from psoriasis
 3 and psoriatic arthritis.

4 WHEREAS, Psoriasis is a common autoimmune disease that
 5 appears on the skin as red, itchy and scaly patches, affecting
 6 nearly 320,000 Pennsylvanians, 7.5 million Americans and 125
 7 million people worldwide; and

8 WHEREAS, Numerous studies have concluded that psoriasis is
 9 linked to many other serious medical conditions, such as
 10 psoriatic arthritis, cardiovascular disease, cancer and
 11 lymphoma, chronic obstructive pulmonary disease, obesity and
 12 metabolic syndrome, diabetes, depression, sexual dysfunction and
 13 sleep apnea; and

14 WHEREAS, An observational study conducted by the American
 15 Medical Association found that patients with psoriasis have an
 16 increased risk of peripheral vascular disease, cerebrovascular

1 disease and ischemic heart disease; and

2 WHEREAS, The Department of Dermatology at the University of
3 Pennsylvania declared that the risk of death for cardiovascular
4 disease increases by 57% for individuals living with psoriasis;
5 and

6 WHEREAS, The International Federation of Psoriasis
7 Associations (IFPA) is a nonprofit organization of psoriasis
8 support organizations around the world whose focus is to
9 advocate for improved medical care and increased research
10 programs as well as educate the public about this disease; and

11 WHEREAS, The IFPA has celebrated World Psoriasis Day annually
12 since 2004 to rally support for psoriasis sufferers and to
13 discuss significant issues affecting the world's psoriasis
14 community; and

15 WHEREAS, The goal of the IFPA in establishing World Psoriasis
16 Day is to raise awareness, improve access to treatment, increase
17 understanding and build unity amongst the general public and
18 people afflicted with psoriasis; and

19 WHEREAS, The National Psoriasis Foundation (NPF) is the
20 leading organization in the nation advocating on behalf of those
21 suffering from psoriasis as well as raising funds for research
22 programs focused on finding a cure for this condition; and

23 WHEREAS, The NPF also represents the United States in the
24 IFPA; and

25 WHEREAS, October 29, 2015, marks the 12th anniversary of
26 World Psoriasis Day, so designated by the IFPA in order to
27 increase public awareness of psoriasis and psoriatic arthritis;
28 therefore be it

29 RESOLVED, That the House of Representatives recognize October
30 29, 2015, as "Psoriasis Day" in support of the efforts of the

1 advocacy groups in Pennsylvania, across the nation and around
2 the globe that are dedicated to raising public awareness about
3 this serious condition.