
THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF PENNSYLVANIA

HOUSE RESOLUTION

No. 501 Session of
2013

INTRODUCED BY CAUSER, K. BOYLE, KIM, EMRICK, HICKERNELL,
SCHLEGEL CULVER, READSHAW, MILLARD, SCHLOSSBERG, DIGIROLAMO,
MICOZZIE, MIRABITO, LONGIETTI, BOBACK, MUSTIO, J. HARRIS,
D. COSTA, DAVIS, BIZZARRO, CALTAGIRONE, STERN, RAPP, NEILSON,
KILLION, MACKENZIE, CUTLER, MCNEILL, BAKER, V. BROWN, LUCAS,
O'NEILL, KOTIK, KINSEY, PARKER, SWANGER, HEFFLEY, GODSHALL,
HENNESSEY, COHEN, YOUNGBLOOD, HAHN, KAUFFMAN, SONNEY, ROZZI,
SAMUELSON, VEREB, KORTZ, GIBBONS, MALONEY, KIRKLAND, CLYMER,
BROOKS, ROCK, JAMES, EVERETT, PICKETT, GOODMAN, MURT, MAJOR,
BENNINGHOFF, PAINTER, O'BRIEN, BARRAR, TALLMAN, MARSHALL,
MARSICO, GRELL, WATSON, D. MILLER, SABATINA, GINGRICH, FLECK,
ROSS, MAHONEY AND C. HARRIS, OCTOBER 15, 2013

INTRODUCED AS NONCONTROVERSIAL RESOLUTION UNDER RULE 35,
OCTOBER 15, 2013

A RESOLUTION

1 Designating October 2013 as "Down Syndrome Awareness Month" in
2 Pennsylvania.

3 WHEREAS, Down syndrome is a genetic condition that occurs in
4 approximately one in every 800 births; and

5 WHEREAS, The most common form of Down syndrome, Trisomy 21,
6 is due to an error in cell division, just prior to or during
7 conception, with the 21st chromosome dividing in three instead
8 of two, resulting in a person's being born with 47 instead of 46
9 chromosomes in each cell; and

10 WHEREAS, There are more than 400,000 people of various
11 ethnic, racial, religious and socioeconomic groups with Down
12 syndrome living in the United States; and

1 WHEREAS, While people with Down syndrome are at a higher risk
2 for various conditions, such as congenital heart defects,
3 respiratory problems and thyroid issues, advances in treatments
4 enable them to lead healthy lives; and

5 WHEREAS, Thanks to these medical treatments and continuing
6 research, life expectancy for people with Down syndrome has
7 increased from 25 years of age in 1983 to 60 years of age today;
8 and

9 WHEREAS, Early intervention, appropriate speech, physical and
10 occupational therapies and quality education programs enable
11 people with Down syndrome to adapt and thrive; and

12 WHEREAS, With such programs and the support of their families
13 and communities, people with Down syndrome attend school,
14 participate in postsecondary opportunities, with many going on
15 to college, obtain full-time employment, enter into marriage and
16 fully participate in their communities; therefore be it

17 RESOLVED, That the House of Representatives designate October
18 2013 as "Down Syndrome Awareness Month" in Pennsylvania,
19 recognizing the positive contributions that people with Down
20 syndrome and their families make to our communities in the
21 United States and Pennsylvania.