
THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF PENNSYLVANIA

HOUSE RESOLUTION

No. 910 Session of
2020

INTRODUCED BY RAPP, MILLARD, RYAN, KORTZ, SONNEY, SCHMITT,
LONGIETTI, VITALI, READSHAW, BURNS, NEILSON, WARREN AND
BROWN, JUNE 23, 2020

REFERRED TO COMMITTEE ON HEALTH, JUNE 23, 2020

A RESOLUTION

1 Designating the week of September 6 through 12, 2020, as
2 "Idiopathic Pulmonary Fibrosis Research and Awareness Week"
3 in Pennsylvania to increase awareness and understanding of
4 idiopathic pulmonary fibrosis.

5 WHEREAS, Idiopathic pulmonary fibrosis is a debilitating and
6 generally fatal disease marked by progressive scarring of the
7 lungs, causing an irreversible loss of the lung tissue's ability
8 to transport oxygen; and

9 WHEREAS, Idiopathic pulmonary fibrosis progresses quickly,
10 often causing disability or death within three to five years;
11 and

12 WHEREAS, Idiopathic pulmonary fibrosis is the most common
13 form of interstitial lung disease; and

14 WHEREAS, There is no proven cause of idiopathic pulmonary
15 fibrosis and it is often misdiagnosed or under diagnosed; and

16 WHEREAS, Idiopathic pulmonary fibrosis is five times more
17 common than cystic fibrosis and Lou Gehrig's disease yet the
18 disease remains virtually unknown and receives a fraction of the

1 research funding; and

2 WHEREAS, More than 132,000 United States' citizens have
3 idiopathic pulmonary fibrosis and more than 50,000 new cases are
4 diagnosed each year; and

5 WHEREAS, Forty thousand people die each year due to
6 idiopathic pulmonary fibrosis, the same number as breast cancer;
7 and

8 WHEREAS, Approximately 7,000 Pennsylvanians suffer from
9 idiopathic pulmonary fibrosis; and

10 WHEREAS, This Commonwealth has become a leader in research
11 and treatment of idiopathic pulmonary fibrosis, with more than
12 15% of all lung transplants in the United States performed in
13 Pennsylvania hospitals; and

14 WHEREAS, COVID-19 poses a great threat to patients with
15 idiopathic pulmonary fibrosis due to the average age of
16 diagnosis and the vulnerability of their lungs and immune
17 systems; and

18 WHEREAS, Increased research, awareness and detection of
19 idiopathic pulmonary fibrosis is needed; therefore be it

20 RESOLVED, That the House of Representatives designate the
21 week of September 6 through 12, 2020, as "Idiopathic Pulmonary
22 Fibrosis Research and Awareness Week" in Pennsylvania to
23 increase awareness and understanding of idiopathic pulmonary
24 fibrosis to support improved diagnosis and treatment.