
THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF PENNSYLVANIA

SENATE RESOLUTION

No. 282 Session of
2014

INTRODUCED BY SCHWANK, DINNIMAN, FERLO, WOZNIAK, FARNESE, BAKER,
STACK, KITCHEN, FOLMER, ARGALL, ERICKSON, BREWSTER, BROWNE,
ALLOWAY, WASHINGTON, SMITH, SOLOBAY, TEPLITZ, VOGEL, FONTANA,
RAFFERTY, VULAKOVICH, HUGHES, BOSCOLA AND GREENLEAF,
JANUARY 15, 2014

INTRODUCED AND ADOPTED, JANUARY 15, 2014

A RESOLUTION

1 Recognizing the month of January 2014 as "Cervical Cancer
2 Awareness Month" in Pennsylvania.

3 WHEREAS, During the month of January there is a national
4 focus on cervical cancer in order to increase public
5 understanding of the disease, including its prevalence,
6 approaches to screening and prevention, treatment options and
7 resources that offer information about it; and

8 WHEREAS, The American Cancer Society estimates that more than
9 12,000 women will be diagnosed with cervical cancer this year
10 and 4,000 or more will die from it; and

11 WHEREAS, Cervical cancer affects the cervix, the part of the
12 body that connects the uterus (or womb) to the vagina (or birth
13 canal); and

14 WHEREAS, Cervical cancer develops very slowly, with half of
15 women diagnosed being between 35 and 55 years of age, and
16 approximately one in five is diagnosed after the age of 65; and

1 WHEREAS, The highest rates of occurrence are among Latina and
2 women of African-American descent; and

3 WHEREAS, It is estimated that 20 million Americans carry the
4 Human Papillomavirus (HPV), the most common sexually transmitted
5 virus that leads to cervical cancer; and

6 WHEREAS, Periodic Pap tests are recommended to detect
7 precancerous and cancerous cervical cells for women 21 years of
8 age and older; and

9 WHEREAS, A series of three HPV vaccinations is recommended
10 for all males and females beginning at nine years of age up to
11 26 years of age to provide long-term protection against the most
12 common strains of HPV that cause cervical cancer; and

13 WHEREAS, Regular cervical cancer screening can usually be
14 performed simply as part of a regular physical examination with
15 a Pap test, one of the most reliable and effective cancer
16 screening tests available; and

17 WHEREAS, The majority of women diagnosed with cervical cancer
18 have not had regular Pap tests or have not followed up on
19 abnormal Pap test results; and

20 WHEREAS, Other risk factors associated with cervical cancer
21 are smoking, long-term use of birth control pills and having
22 three or more children; and

23 WHEREAS, Today, medical advances have made cervical cancer,
24 once the second leading cause of death for women, a preventable
25 disease with a very high rate of cure when detected early;
26 therefore be it

27 RESOLVED, That the Senate recognize the month of January 2014
28 as "Cervical Cancer Awareness Month" in Pennsylvania.