
THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF PENNSYLVANIA

SENATE RESOLUTION

No. 294 Session of
2022

INTRODUCED BY VOGEL, BARTOLOTTA, HUGHES, MARTIN, BROOKS, KANE,
BROWNE, PHILLIPS-HILL, FONTANA, CAPPELLETTI AND SCHWANK,
MAY 18, 2022

REFERRED TO RULES AND EXECUTIVE NOMINATIONS, MAY 18, 2022

A RESOLUTION

1 Recognizing the month of May 2022 as "Stroke Awareness Month" in
2 Pennsylvania.

3 WHEREAS, A stroke is the interruption of blood supply to the
4 brain; and

5 WHEREAS, The symptoms of a stroke include numbness in the
6 face, arm or leg, difficulty speaking, a severe headache,
7 difficulty walking or a lack of coordination and vision loss;
8 and

9 WHEREAS, More than 795,000 Americans experience a stroke each
10 year making it a leading cause of death and long-term disability
11 according to the National Institute of Neurological Disorders
12 and Stroke; and

13 WHEREAS, In 2017, 6,700 Pennsylvanians died of a stroke
14 making it the Commonwealth's fourth leading cause of death; and

15 WHEREAS, The most severe type of stroke is known as emergent
16 large vessel occlusion (ELVO), and it occurs when a clot
17 prevents the flow of blood and oxygen to the brain and kills up

1 to 2 million brain cells each minute until it is removed; and

2 WHEREAS, Revolutionary advancements in medical innovation
3 have made it possible to save more lives and prevent long-term
4 disability among patients afflicted with a stroke such as ELVO,
5 provided that they are triaged and transported to the most
6 appropriate medical facilities for lifesaving care; and

7 WHEREAS, Level 1 stroke centers located throughout
8 Pennsylvania are staffed with highly trained neurointerventional
9 care teams who perform a minimally invasive procedure called
10 mechanical thrombectomy, through which the clot responsible for
11 the stroke is quickly located and removed restoring blood flow
12 to the brain; and

13 WHEREAS, During "Stroke Awareness Month," and year round, the
14 Society of NeuroInterventional Surgery's "Get Ahead of Stroke®"
15 initiative encourages collaboration among first responders,
16 providers, patient advocates and other interested stakeholders
17 in developing and adopting a triage and transport system for
18 critical stroke patients to ensure that they are transported
19 directly to Level 1 stroke centers, which are best equipped to
20 provide lifesaving care; and

21 WHEREAS, The Department of Health's Bureau of Emergency
22 Medical Services is to be commended for taking the initial steps
23 necessary to improve the Commonwealth's triage and transport of
24 stroke patients through recent updates to the Pennsylvania Basic
25 Life Support (BLS) protocol; and

26 WHEREAS, It is fitting and proper that Pennsylvanians
27 recognize "Stroke Awareness Month" and acknowledge the
28 commendable work of organizations such as the Society of
29 NeuroInterventional Surgery which are dedicated to improving
30 systems of care for stroke patients to help save lives and

1 prevent disability; therefore be it

2 RESOLVED, That the Senate recognize the month of May 2022 as
3 "Stroke Awareness Month" in Pennsylvania; and be it further

4 RESOLVED, That the Senate encourage all residents of this
5 Commonwealth to familiarize themselves with the risk factors
6 associated with stroke, recognize the warning signs and symptoms
7 and, upon recognizing the first sign of a stroke, dial 9-1-1
8 immediately to help ensure the best patient outcomes while
9 reducing the effects of stroke on our population.