
THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF PENNSYLVANIA

SENATE RESOLUTION

No. 328 Session of
2022

INTRODUCED BY SANTARSIERO, CAPPELLETTI, HUGHES, MARTIN,
BARTOLOTTA, BROWNE, PHILLIPS-HILL, FONTANA, COMMITTA, KEARNEY,
SCHWANK AND HAYWOOD, SEPTEMBER 7, 2022

REFERRED TO RULES AND EXECUTIVE NOMINATIONS, SEPTEMBER 7, 2022

A RESOLUTION

1 Recognizing October 1, 2022, as "World Ostomy Day" in
2 Pennsylvania.

3 WHEREAS, An ostomy is a type of surgery that creates an
4 opening, known as a stoma, in the abdomen that allows for the
5 removal of bodily waste when a person has lost the normal
6 function of digestive or urinary systems due to a birth defect,
7 colorectal cancer, bladder cancer, Crohn's disease, ulcerative
8 colitis or other medical condition; and

9 WHEREAS, An ostomy is also necessary in cases of severe
10 abdominal or pelvic trauma resulting from accidents or from
11 injuries sustained during military service; and

12 WHEREAS, The bodily waste passes through the stoma into an
13 ostomy pouch on the outside of the body or, in the case of a
14 continent diversion surgery, an internal surgically created
15 reservoir; and

16 WHEREAS, Approximately 725,000 to 1 million Americans have an
17 ostomy, with more than 100,000 new ostomy procedures performed

1 each year; and

2 WHEREAS, Ostomy or continent diversion surgery can occur at
3 any age and does not lower life expectancy; and

4 WHEREAS, Largely through the efforts of United Ostomy
5 Associations of America, Inc. (UOAA), and its more than 300
6 affiliated support groups, Americans needing these surgeries are
7 becoming more aware of the opportunities for education, mutual
8 aid, advocacy and support that are of great benefit to them and
9 their families; and

10 WHEREAS, UOAA celebrates "Ostomy Awareness Day" annually on
11 the first Saturday of October; and

12 WHEREAS, The aim of "World Ostomy Day" is to improve the
13 rehabilitation of ostomates worldwide by bringing to the
14 attention of the general public and the global community the
15 needs and aspirations of ostomates; and

16 WHEREAS, The Senate is committed to increasing public
17 understanding of ostomies to help dispel the fear of those about
18 to undergo this surgery, as well as the fear that confronts
19 their families; and

20 WHEREAS, "World Ostomy Day" can serve as a reminder to the
21 American public that this is a life-saving and life-restoring
22 surgery; and

23 WHEREAS, The Senate recognizes that public education and
24 awareness are vital to ensure that those who are living with an
25 ostomy face no discrimination and are accepted as normal,
26 healthy individuals; therefore be it

27 RESOLVED, That the Senate recognize October 1, 2022, as
28 "World Ostomy Day" in Pennsylvania.