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THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF PENNSYLVANIA

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SENATE RESOLUTION

No. 343 Session of  
2024

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INTRODUCED BY TARTAGLIONE, K. WARD, STREET, BROOKS, SANTARSIERO,  
FARRY, LAUGHLIN, KANE, BOSCOLA, COMITTA, CAPPELLETTI,  
ROTHMAN, ROBINSON, FONTANA, PHILLIPS-HILL, VOGEL, CULVER,  
HAYWOOD, PENNYCUICK, HUGHES, J. WARD, STEFANO, L. WILLIAMS  
AND MARTIN, OCTOBER 1, 2024

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REFERRED TO RULES AND EXECUTIVE NOMINATIONS, OCTOBER 1, 2024

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A RESOLUTION

1 Recognizing the month of October 2024 as "National Breast Cancer  
2 Awareness Month" in Pennsylvania and October 18, 2024, as  
3 "National Mammography Day" in Pennsylvania.

4 WHEREAS, "National Breast Cancer Awareness Month" was founded  
5 in 1985 and has since evolved into a collaboration of national  
6 public service organizations, professional medical associations  
7 and government agencies working together to promote breast  
8 cancer awareness, share information on the disease and provide  
9 greater access to services; and

10 WHEREAS, Since its inception more than 30 years ago, the  
11 "National Breast Cancer Awareness Month" effort has stood at the  
12 forefront of promoting awareness of breast cancer issues; and

13 WHEREAS, Much remains to be done to educate individuals about  
14 breast health in order to empower them to take charge of their  
15 health through practicing regular breast self-exams to identify  
16 changes, scheduling regular doctor visits and mammograms as  
17 recommended, adhering to prescribed treatment and knowing the

1 facts about recurrence; and

2 WHEREAS, An important part of raising awareness involves  
3 helping people to understand the importance of screening and  
4 detecting cancer in its early stages so that treatment can  
5 occur, increasing survival rates and healing and decreasing  
6 suffering; and

7 WHEREAS, A mammogram serves as a screening test that can  
8 detect breast cancer early; and

9 WHEREAS, Screening for breast cancer for women 40 years of  
10 age or older through mammograms helps to ensure early detection  
11 of breast cancer; and

12 WHEREAS, "National Mammography Day" has existed since 1993,  
13 when President Bill Clinton first proclaimed the third Friday of  
14 October as "National Mammography Day" to encourage women,  
15 particularly those in high-risk groups, to make a mammography  
16 appointment during the month of October; and

17 WHEREAS, The PA Breast Cancer Coalition, founded in 1993,  
18 continues to benefit the Commonwealth by funding research,  
19 providing mammograms, assisting lawmakers and informing the  
20 public about breast cancer; and

21 WHEREAS, Raising breast cancer awareness remains an important  
22 issue as the five-year survival rate of breast cancer detected  
23 in the localized stage is 99% while only 64% of breast cancer  
24 cases are detected in this stage; and

25 WHEREAS, The American Cancer Society estimates that in 2024,  
26 an estimated 310,720 new cases of invasive breast cancer will be  
27 diagnosed among women and approximately 2,790 cases will be  
28 diagnosed in men; and

29 WHEREAS, The PA Breast Cancer Coalition estimates that more  
30 than 13,000 women in Pennsylvania are diagnosed with breast

1 cancer each year; and

2 WHEREAS, The overall breast cancer death rate increased by  
3 0.4% per year from 1975 to 1989, but since has decreased  
4 rapidly, for a total decline of 42% through 2021; and

5 WHEREAS, As a result, at least 384,000 breast cancer deaths  
6 in women in the United States were averted through the use of  
7 mammography and improved treatment from 1989 to 2018; and

8 WHEREAS, The decline in breast cancer mortality has slowed  
9 slightly in the most recent time period, from an annual decrease  
10 of 1.9% during 2002 to 2011 to 1.3% during 2011 to 2020; and

11 WHEREAS, The death rate for male breast cancer has decreased  
12 slightly from 0.4 deaths per 100,000 men during 1975 to 1979 to  
13 0.3 per 100,000 men during 2013 to 2017, reflecting improvements  
14 in treatment; therefore be it

15 RESOLVED, That the Senate recognize the month of October 2024  
16 as "National Breast Cancer Awareness Month" in Pennsylvania; and  
17 be it further

18 RESOLVED, That the Senate recognize October 18, 2024, as  
19 "National Mammography Day" in Pennsylvania; and be it further

20 RESOLVED, That the Senate urge all individuals in this  
21 Commonwealth to have discussions with their doctors about breast  
22 cancer, particularly about the value of getting screened for  
23 breast cancer, especially if possible signs of breast cancer are  
24 detected; and be it further

25 RESOLVED, That the Senate encourage women in this  
26 Commonwealth 40 years of age or older to undergo annual  
27 mammograms and urge women under 40 years of age who are at high-  
28 risk for breast cancer to follow their doctor's advice on breast  
29 cancer screenings; and be it further

30 RESOLVED, That the Senate urge residents to take action

1 during the month of October and throughout the year to help  
2 people remain informed about the incidence of breast cancer and  
3 how residents of this Commonwealth can protect themselves from  
4 the disease and take proper action if breast cancer develops.