
THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF PENNSYLVANIA

SENATE RESOLUTION

No. 371 Session of
2024

INTRODUCED BY MARTIN, VOGEL, J. WARD, COSTA, CULVER, BROWN,
HUGHES, DUSH, COMITTA, HAYWOOD, CAPPELLETTI, BREWSTER AND
MILLER, NOVEMBER 15, 2024

REFERRED TO RULES AND EXECUTIVE NOMINATIONS, NOVEMBER 15, 2024

A RESOLUTION

1 Recognizing November 14, 2024, as "World Diabetes Day" in
2 Pennsylvania.

3 WHEREAS, The Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC)
4 defines diabetes as a chronic disease that affects one's ability
5 to process food into energy properly; and

6 WHEREAS, The inability to process food properly affects an
7 individual's ability to create enough insulin or fully utilize
8 the individual's own insulin; and

9 WHEREAS, Over time, abnormalities with insulin levels can
10 lead to serious health complications, including heart disease,
11 stroke, kidney disease, blindness, limb amputations and early
12 death; and

13 WHEREAS, The three main types of diabetes are Type 1, Type 2
14 and gestational diabetes; and

15 WHEREAS, Prediabetes can be classified as having higher-than-
16 normal blood sugar levels, but not quite high enough to be
17 considered Type 2; and

1 WHEREAS, Having prediabetes is a strong indicator that an
2 individual will eventually be diagnosed with Type 2 diabetes;
3 and

4 WHEREAS, Risk factors for diabetes include genetic factors,
5 high blood pressure, low HDL cholesterol or high triglycerides,
6 gestational diabetes during pregnancy, being 45 years of age or
7 older, being a member of a high-risk ethnic group, being
8 overweight and having an inactive lifestyle; and

9 WHEREAS, According to the most recent National Diabetes
10 Statistics Report released by the CDC, approximately 38.4
11 million individuals, or roughly 11.6% of the United States
12 population, live with the disease; and

13 WHEREAS, Of this number approximately 8.7 million, or nearly
14 23%, are undiagnosed; and

15 WHEREAS, Approximately 11.1% of Pennsylvanians live with some
16 form of diagnosed diabetes, with an additional estimated 3%
17 living undiagnosed, according to the most updated information
18 from the American Diabetes Association (ADA); and

19 WHEREAS, In 2021, diabetes contributed to more than 100,000
20 deaths nationwide; and

21 WHEREAS, The most recent data from the CDC states that
22 diabetes contributed to 4,124 deaths in Pennsylvania; and

23 WHEREAS, Diabetes is one of the seven leading causes of
24 health-related deaths in this Commonwealth; and

25 WHEREAS, The rate of deaths related to diabetes has increased
26 over the past four decades; and

27 WHEREAS, There is currently no cure for diabetes but an
28 individual's risk of developing Type 2 diabetes can be greatly
29 reduced through a healthy diet, physical activity and
30 medication; and

1 WHEREAS, The majority of avoidable costs associated with
2 treating diabetes result from inpatient hospitalizations and
3 emergency room visits, which could be reduced by proactively
4 managing diabetes-associated conditions in an outpatient
5 setting; and

6 WHEREAS, According to the Economic Report published by the
7 ADA every five years, as of 2022, the total annual cost of
8 diabetes in the United States reached nearly \$413 billion,
9 including roughly \$307 billion in direct costs and nearly \$106
10 billion in indirect costs; and

11 WHEREAS, Management of diabetes and other chronic conditions
12 is a major cost driver for programs such as Medicaid and
13 Medicare; and

14 WHEREAS, "World Diabetes Day" was first introduced by the
15 International Diabetes Federation and the World Health
16 Organization in 1991 to raise awareness of the escalating
17 incidence of diabetes worldwide; and

18 WHEREAS, November 14 of each year was chosen to mark "World
19 Diabetes Day" because it represents the birthday of Frederick
20 Banting who, along with Charles Best, is credited with the
21 discovery of insulin in 1921; and

22 WHEREAS, "World Diabetes Day" became an official United
23 Nations international observance in 2007 pursuant to the
24 December 2006 resolution of the General Assembly of the United
25 Nations recognizing diabetes as "a chronic, debilitating and
26 costly disease associated with major complications that pose
27 severe risks for families, countries and the entire world";
28 therefore be it

29 RESOLVED, That the Senate recognize November 14, 2024, as
30 "World Diabetes Day" in Pennsylvania; and be it further

1 RESOLVED, That the Senate encourage residents in communities
2 throughout this Commonwealth to recommit to raising awareness of
3 diabetes and the need for education and services for individuals
4 afflicted with diabetes.