
THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF PENNSYLVANIA

SENATE RESOLUTION

No. 56 Session of
2023

INTRODUCED BY BROWN, MARCH 14, 2023

REFERRED TO RULES AND EXECUTIVE NOMINATIONS, MARCH 14, 2023

A RESOLUTION

1 Designating the month of February 2023 as "Atherosclerotic
2 Cardiovascular Disease Month" in Pennsylvania.

3 WHEREAS, Cardiovascular disease is the leading cause of death
4 in the United States; and

5 WHEREAS, In the United States, approximately 21 million
6 patients have been diagnosed with atherosclerotic cardiovascular
7 disease (ASCVD) and are at risk of a cardiovascular event
8 according to the United States Census Bureau; and

9 WHEREAS, The Mayo Clinic states that ASCVD is linked to the
10 buildup of cholesterol in the arteries and the risk of
11 associated events can be modified by lowering low-density
12 lipoprotein cholesterol (LDL-C); and

13 WHEREAS, In 2016, nearly 70 million adults in the United
14 States had higher than recommended LDL-C levels; and

15 WHEREAS, Approximately 43.1 million people in the United
16 States are currently treated with lipid-lowering therapies to
17 manage cardiovascular risk; and

18 WHEREAS, Only 20% of people with ASCVD who are taking

1 statins, one of the leading lipid-lowering therapies, actually
2 achieve healthy levels of LDL-C; and

3 WHEREAS, The total direct and indirect cost of ASCVD in the
4 United States was \$555 billion in 2016 and is projected to climb
5 to \$1.1 trillion by 2035 according to the American Heart
6 Association; and

7 WHEREAS, In Pennsylvania, 931,400 adults have been told by a
8 health professional that they had angina, a stroke, a heart
9 attack or coronary heart disease, which are some of the
10 manifestations of ASCVD; and

11 WHEREAS, In Pennsylvania, 17,653 people had ASCVD as an
12 underlying cause of death; and

13 WHEREAS, In Pennsylvania, 456,300 adults reported
14 experiencing a heart attack in their lifetime, and 382,400
15 adults reported experiencing a stroke in their lifetime; and

16 WHEREAS, Pennsylvania spends an estimated \$5.5 billion on
17 direct medical expenses for ASCVD care each year; therefore be
18 it

19 RESOLVED, That the Senate of the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania
20 designate the month of February 2023 as "Atherosclerotic
21 Cardiovascular Disease Month" in Pennsylvania; and be it further

22 RESOLVED, That the Senate of the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania
23 urge Commonwealth agencies to expand comprehensive
24 cardiovascular screening programs to allow for earlier
25 identification of patients at risk of cardiovascular events; and
26 be it further

27 RESOLVED, That the Senate of the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania
28 urge Commonwealth agencies to explore ways to collaborate with
29 Federal public and private national agencies and organizations
30 to establish or expand comprehensive cardiovascular screening

1 programs; and be it further

2 RESOLVED, That the Senate of the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania
3 urge an update of the Commonwealth's cardiovascular plan to
4 accelerate quality improvements in the care rendered to these
5 patients, including screening, treatment, monitoring and
6 improved health outcomes; and be it further

7 RESOLVED, That the Senate of the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania
8 support the creation of policies to decrease the rising number
9 of deaths of Americans as a result of ASCVD; and be it further

10 RESOLVED, That a copy of this resolution be transmitted to
11 the Governor, members of the House of Representatives of the
12 Commonwealth of Pennsylvania, the President of the United
13 States, the Vice President of the United States, members of the
14 United States House of Representatives, members of the United
15 States Senate and other Federal and State government officials
16 and agencies as appropriate.