

THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF PENNSYLVANIA

HOUSE RESOLUTION

No. 448 Session of
2019

INTRODUCED BY MURT, BIZZARRO, LONGIETTI, MOUL, RYAN, KENYATTA,
BURNS, JONES, FREEMAN, HILL-EVANS, DIGIROLAMO, JAMES,
READSHAW, KORTZ, HENNESSEY, KIRKLAND, CALTAGIRONE, BROWN,
BOBACK, SCHLOSSBERG, NEILSON, SCHMITT, CONKLIN AND KINSEY,
SEPTEMBER 3, 2019

REFERRED TO COMMITTEE ON HUMAN SERVICES, SEPTEMBER 3, 2019

A RESOLUTION

1 Recognizing the month of September 2019 as "Fetal Alcohol
2 Spectrum Disorders Awareness Month" in Pennsylvania.

3 WHEREAS, The House of Representatives is committed to
4 highlighting awareness of fetal alcohol spectrum disorders
5 (FASDs) and notices the importance of helping pregnant women and
6 women seeking to become pregnant abstain from alcohol use during
7 all stages of pregnancy; and

8 WHEREAS, The House of Representatives encourages an informed
9 approach to understanding and caring for individuals living with
10 FASDs; and

11 WHEREAS, Exposure to alcohol in the womb presents serious
12 risks to a developing child; and

13 WHEREAS, FASDs cause physical and behavioral health issues
14 that can affect learning and participation in the community; and

15 WHEREAS, FASDs are preventable by avoiding alcohol, yet much
16 work remains to educate and empower individuals to take charge

1 of their health and promote healthy pregnancies; and

2 WHEREAS, While the birth defects and disabilities associated
3 with FASDs are permanent, proper diagnosis and treatment can
4 improve outcomes; and

5 WHEREAS, "Fetal Alcohol Spectrum Disorders Awareness Month"
6 has grown into a collaboration of national public service
7 organizations, professional medical associations and government
8 agencies working together to promote awareness, share
9 information and provide greater access to services for FASDs;
10 and

11 WHEREAS, The goal of the observance is to create a global
12 community free of alcohol-exposed pregnancies and a society
13 supportive of individuals already living with FASDs; therefore
14 be it

15 RESOLVED, That the House of Representatives recognize the
16 month of September 2019 as "Fetal Alcohol Spectrum Disorders
17 Awareness Month" in Pennsylvania; and be it further

18 RESOLVED, That the House of Representatives encourage all
19 individuals in this Commonwealth to acknowledge the dangers of
20 consuming any amount of alcohol during pregnancy; and be it
21 further

22 RESOLVED, That the House of Representatives urge action and
23 education during the month of September and all throughout the
24 year to ensure that women refrain from consuming alcohol during
25 pregnancy; and be it further

26 RESOLVED, That the House of Representatives urge access to
27 appropriate screening by medical professionals when FASDs are
28 suspected as well as access to therapies and supportive services
29 upon diagnosis so that affected individuals may live the fullest
30 and most productive lives possible.