
THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF PENNSYLVANIA

HOUSE RESOLUTION

No. 464 Session of
2019

INTRODUCED BY BROWN, HENNESSEY, DIGIROLAMO, PICKETT, SONNEY,
LONGIETTI, HILL-EVANS, FREEMAN, RYAN, MURT, SCHLEGEL CULVER,
BIZZARRO, MALAGARI, BOBACK, BURNS, SCHMITT, OWLETT,
CALTAGIRONE, MILLARD, KORTZ, READSHAW, HEFFLEY AND MOUL,
SEPTEMBER 5, 2019

REFERRED TO COMMITTEE ON HEALTH, SEPTEMBER 5, 2019

A RESOLUTION

1 Recognizing the month of September 2019 as "Polycystic Kidney
2 Disease Awareness Month" in Pennsylvania.

3 WHEREAS, Polycystic kidney disease (PKD) is a genetic disease
4 that is passed from an infected parent to child and causes
5 uncontrolled growth of cysts in the kidney; and

6 WHEREAS, PKD affects all racial and ethnic groups equally and
7 occurs equally in men and women; and

8 WHEREAS, Approximately 600,000 people in the United States
9 have PKD and it is the fourth leading cause of kidney failure;
10 and

11 WHEREAS, There are three types of PKD: autosomal dominant
12 (ADPKD), autosomal recessive (ARPKD) and acquired cystic (ACKD);
13 and

14 WHEREAS, ADPKD is the most common form of PKD, comprising
15 90% of all PKD cases, and it is passed from parent to child
16 genetically by dominant inheritance; and

1 WHEREAS, Symptoms of ADPKD typically begin between 30 and 40
2 years of age, but can begin as early as childhood; and

3 WHEREAS, ARPKD is passed from parent to child genetically by
4 recessive inheritance; and

5 WHEREAS, ARPKD is a rare form of PKD and occurs in 1 in
6 20,000 children worldwide; and

7 WHEREAS, Symptoms of ARPKD begin in the earliest months of
8 life, even in the womb; and

9 WHEREAS, ARPKD is very serious because it progresses rapidly
10 and is often fatal in the first few months of life; and

11 WHEREAS, ACKD is most often associated with kidney failure
12 and dialysis because it can cause long-term damage and severe
13 scarring in the kidney; and

14 WHEREAS, ACKD develops in about 90% of people who have been
15 on dialysis for at least five years; and

16 WHEREAS, Symptoms that may indicate that an individual has
17 PKD include back or side pain, an increase in the size of the
18 abdomen, blood in the urine, frequent bladder or kidney
19 infections, fluttering or pounding in the chest and high blood
20 pressure; and

21 WHEREAS, High blood pressure is the most common sign of PKD;
22 and

23 WHEREAS, If high blood pressure is treated, the treatment can
24 help slow or even prevent kidney failure; and

25 WHEREAS, Approximately 50% of individuals with PKD will have
26 kidney failure by 60 years of age, and 60% of individuals will
27 have kidney failure by 70 years of age; and

28 WHEREAS, The only options available for individuals
29 experiencing kidney failure are dialysis or a kidney transplant;
30 and

1 WHEREAS, Although PKD has no cure, supportive treatments can
2 be administered to control symptoms, help slow cyst growth and
3 prevent or slow down the loss of kidney function as a result of
4 PKD; and

5 WHEREAS, Supportive treatments for PKD include all of the
6 following:

7 (1) Carefully controlling blood pressure.

8 (2) Promptly treating bladder or kidney infections with
9 antibiotics.

10 (3) Drinking a lot of water when blood in the urine is
11 first noticed.

12 (4) Using medication to control pain.

13 (5) Maintaining a healthy lifestyle by quitting smoking,
14 exercising, controlling weight, avoiding caffeine and
15 reducing salt intake;

16 and

17 WHEREAS, The average annual cost per patient of dialysis
18 treatments is \$89,000, and the average total annual cost of
19 dialysis treatments is \$42 billion nationwide; therefore be it

20 RESOLVED, That the House of Representatives recognize the
21 month of September 2019 as "Polycystic Kidney Disease Month" in
22 Pennsylvania.