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THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF PENNSYLVANIA

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HOUSE RESOLUTION

No. 551 Session of  
2013

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INTRODUCED BY COHEN, BISHOP, BIZZARRO, BOBACK, V. BROWN,  
BROWNLEE, CALTAGIRONE, SCHLEGEL CULVER, DeLUCA, DiGIROLAMO,  
EVERETT, FARINA, FLECK, FREEMAN, GAINNEY, GRELL, HAGGERTY,  
KAVULICH, KIRKLAND, KOTIK, LONGIETTI, LUCAS, MAHONEY,  
MARSICO, MCCARTER, MCNEILL, MILLARD, MURT, O'BRIEN, PARKER,  
READSHAW, ROCK, ROSS, SCHREIBER, SNYDER, SONNEY, THOMAS,  
YOUNGBLOOD AND MICOZZIE, NOVEMBER 13, 2013

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INTRODUCED AS NONCONTROVERSIAL RESOLUTION UNDER RULE 35,  
NOVEMBER 13, 2013

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A RESOLUTION

1 Designating November 19, 2013, as "National Memory Screening  
2 Day" in Pennsylvania.

3 WHEREAS, November is National Alzheimer's Disease Awareness  
4 Month; and

5 WHEREAS, It is important to recognize the devastating nature  
6 of Alzheimer's disease on individuals, as well as their  
7 families; and

8 WHEREAS, Early detection of memory problems is critical; and

9 WHEREAS, The stigma associated with memory loss, especially  
10 Alzheimer's disease, often delays screening and diagnosis for up  
11 to six years in some cases; and

12 WHEREAS, Recent advancements in scientific research have  
13 demonstrated the benefits of early medical treatment for  
14 individuals with Alzheimer's disease and also the benefits of  
15 early access to counseling and other support services for their

1 caregivers; and

2 WHEREAS, With early diagnosis, individuals can avoid or  
3 correct contributing medical problems, commence available  
4 therapy, organize current and future care and enhance self-  
5 determination; and

6 WHEREAS, Caregivers can identify and embrace available  
7 community support services; and

8 WHEREAS, In direct response to research breakthroughs,  
9 National Memory Screening Day was established by the Alzheimer's  
10 Foundation of America (AFA) as a collaborative effort with local  
11 organizations and health care professionals across the country  
12 to promote awareness, early detection and early diagnosis of  
13 memory impairment so that individuals can obtain proper medical  
14 treatment, social services and other resources related to their  
15 condition; and

16 WHEREAS, Memory screening is not used to diagnose any  
17 illness, but is used as an indicator to determine whether a  
18 person might benefit from further examination by a qualified  
19 health care provider; and

20 WHEREAS, Memory screenings are a safe and cost-effective  
21 intervention to direct at-risk individuals to appropriate  
22 clinical resources, thus reducing the costs of long-term care or  
23 hospitalization resulting from undiagnosed complications; and

24 WHEREAS, Screenings also greatly benefit those with normal  
25 scores by checking their memory, allaying fears and promoting  
26 chronic disease prevention and successful aging; therefore be it

27 RESOLVED, That the House of Representatives designate  
28 November 19, 2013, as "National Memory Screening Day" in  
29 Pennsylvania and urge the citizens of this Commonwealth to  
30 participate in a free and confidential memory screening program

1 at National Memory Screening Day sites or by other qualified  
2 professionals.