
THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF PENNSYLVANIA

HOUSE RESOLUTION

No. 962 Session of
2020

INTRODUCED BY BENNINGHOFF, BARRAR, BERNSTINE, BONNER, BROWN, BURGOS, BURNS, CAUSER, COOK, COX, SCHLEGEL CULVER, DALEY, DAVANZO, DAVIDSON, DEASY, DeLUCA, DONATUCCI, DOWLING, DRISCOLL, ECKER, EMRICK, EVERETT, FARRY, FEE, FREEMAN, FRITZ, GAYDOS, GOODMAN, GREINER, HENNESSEY, HERSHEY, HICKERNELL, HILL-EVANS, HOHENSTEIN, IRVIN, JONES, JOZWIAK, KAUFFMAN, M. K. KELLER, KINSEY, KIRKLAND, KLUNK, KNOWLES, KORTZ, KOSIEROWSKI, LONGIETTI, MACKENZIE, MARSHALL, McNEILL, MEHAFFIE, MIHALEK, MILLARD, B. MILLER, MIZGORSKI, MURT, NEILSON, O'NEAL, ORTITAY, OWLETT, PASHINSKI, PICKETT, POLINCHOCK, PYLE, RAPP, READSHAW, ROTHMAN, ROWE, ROZZI, RYAN, SANKEY, SAYLOR, SCHLOSSBERG, SCHMITT, SCHROEDER, SIMMONS, SONNEY, STAATS, STEPHENS, TOMLINSON, ULLMAN, VITALI, WARREN, WENTLING, WHEELAND, YOUNGBLOOD, WHEATLEY, THOMAS, BOBACK, MOUL, MENTZER, DERMODY AND CIRESI, AUGUST 7, 2020

INTRODUCED AS NONCONTROVERSIAL RESOLUTION UNDER RULE 35,
AUGUST 7, 2020

A RESOLUTION

1 Designating the month of September 2020 as "Childhood Cancer
2 Awareness Month" in Pennsylvania.

3 WHEREAS, Childhood cancers make up less than 1% of all
4 cancers diagnosed each year and childhood cancer rates have been
5 rising slightly for the past few decades; and

6 WHEREAS, Childhood cancer is the second leading cause of
7 death in children under 15 years of age, exceeded only by
8 accidents, and more than 1,100 children are expected to die from
9 cancer in 2020; and

10 WHEREAS, The American Cancer Society estimates that more than
11 11,000 children in the United States under 15 years of age will

1 be diagnosed with cancer in 2020; and

2 WHEREAS, The potential years of life lost to childhood cancer
3 and the potential years of life saved by treatment exceed all
4 other cancers with the exception of breast cancer; and

5 WHEREAS, Most children cannot be treated at a local hospital
6 and families must face the disruption of relocating to receive
7 treatment at a regional cancer center; and

8 WHEREAS, As a result of major treatment advances in recent
9 decades, 84% of children with cancer now survive five years or
10 more; and

11 WHEREAS, This is a huge increase since the mid-1970s, when
12 the five-year survival rate was approximately 58%; and

13 WHEREAS, Survival rates vary depending on the type of cancer
14 and other factors; and

15 WHEREAS, There is still significant progress that must be
16 made with regard to childhood cancer treatment because there are
17 many types of childhood cancer and some types with lower
18 survival rates are very difficult to treat; and

19 WHEREAS, Pennsylvania is a leader in the fight against and
20 treatment of childhood cancer with six Children's Oncology Group
21 hospitals, including St. Christopher's Hospital for Children,
22 Children's Hospital of Philadelphia, Geisinger Medical Center,
23 Lehigh Valley Children's Hospital, Penn State Health Children's
24 Hospital and UPMC Children's Hospital of Pittsburgh; and

25 WHEREAS, Two of only 12 institutions in the Pediatric Brain
26 Tumor Consortium are in Pennsylvania, including Children's
27 Hospital of Philadelphia and Children's Hospital of Pittsburgh;
28 and

29 WHEREAS, Penn State Health Children's Hospital in Hershey is
30 1 of only 10 institutions nationwide in the Pediatric Oncology

1 Experimental Therapeutics Investigators' Consortium; therefore
2 be it

3 RESOLVED, That the House of Representatives designate the
4 month of September 2020 as "Childhood Cancer Awareness Month" in
5 Pennsylvania; and be it further

6 RESOLVED, That the House of Representatives encourage young
7 Pennsylvanians who are fighting cancer, honor young people who
8 have lost their lives to childhood cancer, express gratitude to
9 the doctors and nurses who provide special care to patients and
10 families affected by childhood cancer and encourage all
11 residents in this Commonwealth to join the fight against
12 childhood cancer.