
THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF PENNSYLVANIA

SENATE RESOLUTION

No. 223 Session of
2019

INTRODUCED BY KILLION, AUMENT, BAKER, BARTOLOTTA, BLAKE,
BREWSTER, BROWNE, COLLETT, COSTA, DINNIMAN, FONTANA, HUGHES,
IOVINO, MARTIN, MASTRIANO, MENSCH, PHILLIPS-HILL,
SANTARSIERO, SCHWANK, TARTAGLIONE AND J. WARD,
SEPTEMBER 25, 2019

INTRODUCED AND ADOPTED, SEPTEMBER 25, 2019

A RESOLUTION

1 Designating the month of September 2019 as "Sepsis Awareness
2 Month" in Pennsylvania.

3 WHEREAS, Sepsis is the body's overwhelming response to
4 infection that can lead to tissue damage, organ failure and
5 death; and

6 WHEREAS, More than 1.7 million people are diagnosed with
7 sepsis in the United States each year; and

8 WHEREAS, Sepsis is one of the leading causes of death in the
9 United States and takes more lives than opioid overdoses, breast
10 cancer and prostate cancer combined; and

11 WHEREAS, Sepsis claims more than 270,000 lives annually; and

12 WHEREAS, Approximately 40% of patients diagnosed with severe
13 sepsis do not survive; and

14 WHEREAS, Approximately 50% of survivors of sepsis suffer from
15 post-sepsis syndrome; and

16 WHEREAS, Sepsis significantly impacts at-risk populations,

1 elderly patients, young children and individuals who are
2 immunosuppressed; and

3 WHEREAS, Health care professionals and advocates consider
4 this disease to be an epidemic, with one individual diagnosed
5 with sepsis every 20 seconds; and

6 WHEREAS, Sepsis hospitalizations in the United States cost
7 more than \$27 billion each year; and

8 WHEREAS, Health care professionals are combating sepsis
9 through early detection, best practices, new initiatives,
10 comprehensive education and defined data and analytics; and

11 WHEREAS, Early detection and prompt treatment offer the best
12 chances for reducing deaths and improving recovery for
13 individuals diagnosed with sepsis until a cure is found; and

14 WHEREAS, This Commonwealth is proud to support health care
15 professionals, families and all individuals combating sepsis;
16 and

17 WHEREAS, In 2011, the Sepsis Alliance officially designated
18 September as "Sepsis Awareness Month," shining a spotlight on
19 sepsis by spreading the word around the globe; and

20 WHEREAS, In 2016, the Department of Health, with support from
21 the Hospital and Healthsystem Association of Pennsylvania (HAP),
22 held the first sepsis conference; and

23 WHEREAS, In 2017 and 2018, HAP brought together more than 200
24 health care leaders from across this Commonwealth, as well as a
25 number of sepsis experts for successful conferences each year;
26 and

27 WHEREAS, Continuing that success, HAP is again taking the
28 lead to plan this year's conference for September 23, 2019,
29 entitled "Solving the Puzzle of Sepsis-Putting the Pieces
30 Together in Pennsylvania"; and

1 WHEREAS, Sepsis is treatable, especially with early
2 recognition and care, and individuals can help by learning about
3 the signs and symptoms of sepsis; therefore be it

4 RESOLVED, That the Senate designate the month of September
5 2019 as "Sepsis Awareness Month" in Pennsylvania.