
THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF PENNSYLVANIA

SENATE RESOLUTION

No. 298 Session of
2022

INTRODUCED BY COLLETT, PHILLIPS-HILL, SANTARSIERO, MARTIN,
MENSCH, BARTOLOTTA, FONTANA, KANE, CAPPELLETTI, STREET,
KEARNEY, COSTA, STEFANO AND COMMITTA, MAY 23, 2022

REFERRED TO RULES AND EXECUTIVE NOMINATIONS, MAY 23, 2022

A RESOLUTION

1 Designating the month of May 2022 as "Osteoporosis Awareness and
2 Prevention Month" in Pennsylvania.

3 WHEREAS, An estimated 54 million Americans have osteoporosis
4 or low bone mass; and

5 WHEREAS, Studies suggest that approximately one in two women
6 and up to one in four men who are 50 years of age or older will
7 break a bone due to osteoporosis; and

8 WHEREAS, Approximately 1.8 million Medicare beneficiaries
9 suffer nearly 2.1 million osteoporotic fractures per year, and
10 these fractures are responsible for more hospitalizations than
11 heart attacks, strokes or breast cancer; and

12 WHEREAS, The total annual cost for osteoporotic fractures
13 among Medicare beneficiaries was \$57 billion in 2018 and is
14 expected to grow, as the population ages, to more than \$95
15 billion in 2040; and

16 WHEREAS, In Pennsylvania, 82,000 Medicare beneficiaries
17 suffered more than 97,000 osteoporotic fractures in 2016; and

1 WHEREAS, An estimated 10,200 Pennsylvanians on Medicare
2 suffered not only an initial fracture, but also a subsequent
3 fracture resulting in estimated costs of more than \$228.4
4 million; and

5 WHEREAS, Building strong bones begins in childhood, and the
6 peak of bone mass occurs by early adulthood; and

7 WHEREAS, Osteoporosis and the broken bones it can cause are
8 not part of normal aging, and care for the prevention of
9 osteoporosis is important throughout our lifetime; and

10 WHEREAS, Optimum bone health and prevention of osteoporosis
11 can be maximized by a balanced diet rich in calcium and vitamin
12 D, weight-bearing and muscle-strengthening exercise and a
13 healthy lifestyle with no smoking or excessive alcohol intake;
14 and

15 WHEREAS, Osteoporosis is often called a silent disease
16 because weakening bones may not be obvious, and breaking a bone
17 is often the first sign of osteoporosis; and

18 WHEREAS, Timely bone health screening, diagnosis and
19 treatment can help prevent fractures leading to hospitalization
20 and nursing home stays; and

21 WHEREAS, Cost-effective post-fracture care and improved care
22 coordination has been demonstrated to reduce the number of
23 subsequent or recurrent fractures, yet these programs are not
24 widely available or properly incentivized by Medicare; and

25 WHEREAS, It is crucial that awareness of bone health and
26 osteoporosis is increased among the public, health professionals
27 and policymakers; therefore be it

28 RESOLVED, That the Senate designate the month of May 2022 as
29 "Osteoporosis Awareness and Prevention Month" in Pennsylvania;
30 and be it further

1 RESOLVED, That the Senate encourage the observation of the
2 ideals, goals and activities of beneficial health programs which
3 promote good bone health throughout an individual's lifetime and
4 the prevention of osteoporosis.