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THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF PENNSYLVANIA

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SENATE RESOLUTION

No. 380 Session of  
2020

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INTRODUCED BY TARTAGLIONE, BARTOLOTTA, BROWNE, IOVINO, MUTH,  
BOSCOLA, DINNIMAN, ARNOLD, FONTANA, PHILLIPS-HILL, SCHWANK,  
MENSCH, KILLION, SCAVELLO, COSTA, J. WARD AND BROOKS,  
SEPTEMBER 18, 2020

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REFERRED TO RULES AND EXECUTIVE NOMINATIONS, SEPTEMBER 18, 2020

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A RESOLUTION

1 Recognizing the month of October 2020 as "National Breast Cancer  
2 Awareness Month" in Pennsylvania and October 16, 2020, as  
3 "National Mammography Day" in Pennsylvania.

4 WHEREAS, "National Breast Cancer Awareness Month" was founded  
5 in 1985 and has since evolved into a collaboration of national  
6 public service organizations, professional medical associations  
7 and government agencies working together to promote breast  
8 cancer awareness, share information on the disease and provide  
9 greater access to services; and

10 WHEREAS, Since its inception more than 30 years ago, the  
11 "National Breast Cancer Awareness Month" effort has stood at the  
12 forefront of promoting awareness of breast cancer issues; and

13 WHEREAS, Much remains to be done to educate women and men  
14 about breast health in order to empower them to take charge of  
15 their health through practicing regular breast self-exams to  
16 identify changes, scheduling regular doctor visits and  
17 mammograms as recommended, adhering to prescribed treatment and

1 knowing the facts about recurrence; and

2 WHEREAS, An important part of raising awareness involves  
3 helping people to understand the importance of screening and  
4 detecting cancer in its early stages so that treatment can  
5 occur, increasing survival rates and healing and decreasing  
6 suffering; and

7 WHEREAS, A mammogram serves as a screening test that can  
8 detect breast cancer early; and

9 WHEREAS, Screening for breast cancer for women 40 years of  
10 age or older through mammograms helps to ensure early detection  
11 of breast cancer; and

12 WHEREAS, "National Mammography Day" has existed since 1993  
13 when President Bill Clinton first proclaimed the third Friday of  
14 October as "National Mammography Day" to encourage women,  
15 particularly those in high-risk groups, to make a mammography  
16 appointment during the month of October; and

17 WHEREAS, Raising breast cancer awareness remains an important  
18 issue; and

19 WHEREAS, The American Cancer Society estimates that in 2019,  
20 an estimated 268,600 new cases of invasive breast cancer will be  
21 diagnosed among women and approximately 2,670 cases will be  
22 diagnosed in men; and

23 WHEREAS, The overall breast cancer death rate increased by  
24 0.4% per year from 1975 to 1989, but since has decreased  
25 rapidly, for a total decline of 40% through 2017; and

26 WHEREAS, As a result, 375,900 breast cancer deaths were  
27 averted in women in the United States from 1989 to 2017; and

28 WHEREAS, The decline in breast cancer mortality has slowed  
29 slightly in the most recent time period, from an annual decrease  
30 of 1.9% during 1988 to 2011 to 1.3% during 2011 to 2017; and

1       WHEREAS, The death rate for male breast cancer has decreased  
2 slightly from 0.4 deaths per 100,000 men during 1975 to 1979 to  
3 0.3 per 100,000 men during 2013 to 2017, reflecting improvements  
4 in treatment; therefore be it

5       RESOLVED, That the Senate recognize the month of October 2020  
6 as "National Breast Cancer Awareness Month" in Pennsylvania; and  
7 be it further

8       RESOLVED, That the Senate recognize October 16, 2020, as  
9 "National Mammography Day" in Pennsylvania; and be it further

10       RESOLVED, That the Senate urge all women and men in this  
11 Commonwealth to have discussions with their doctors about breast  
12 cancer, particularly about the value of getting screened for  
13 breast cancer, especially if possible signs of breast cancer are  
14 detected; and be it further

15       RESOLVED, That the Senate encourage women in this  
16 Commonwealth 40 years of age or older to undergo annual  
17 mammograms and urge women 55 years of age or older to recognize  
18 the benefit of undergoing mammograms every two years; and be it  
19 further

20       RESOLVED, That the Senate urge residents to take action  
21 during the month of October and throughout the year to help  
22 people remain informed about the incidence of breast cancer and  
23 how residents of this Commonwealth can protect themselves from  
24 the disease and take proper action if breast cancer develops.