

THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF PENNSYLVANIA

HOUSE RESOLUTION

No. 382 Session of 2017

INTRODUCED BY BENNINGHOFF, CALTAGIRONE, BAKER, BARRAR, BIZZARRO, R. BROWN, V. BROWN, BURNS, CAUSER, CHARLTON, CORBIN, CORR, COX, CUTLER, DeLUCA, DiGIROLAMO, DONATUCCI, DUSH, EVERETT, FRITZ, GODSHALL, GOODMAN, GREINER, HAHN, A. HARRIS, HENNESSEY, HICKERNELL, PHILLIPS-HILL, HILL-EVANS, IRVIN, JAMES, JOZWIAK, KAUFFMAN, KAVULICH, W. KELLER, KINSEY, KNOWLES, KORTZ, LONGIETTI, MACKENZIE, MAKO, MATZIE, MILLARD, B. MILLER, NEILSON, O'NEILL, ORTITAY, PASHINSKI, PICKETT, M. QUINN, READSHAW, ROAE, ROTHMAN, ROZZI, RYAN, SAINATO, SAYLOR, SONNEY, STAATS, TAYLOR, TOEPEL, WARD, WARREN, WENTLING, WHEELAND, MARSICO, D. COSTA, FEE, MEHAFFIE AND SCHLEGEL CULVER, JUNE 7, 2017

INTRODUCED AS NONCONTROVERSIAL RESOLUTION UNDER RULE 35, JUNE 7, 2017

A RESOLUTION

1 Designating the month of September 2017 as "Childhood Cancer
 2 Awareness Month" in Pennsylvania, encouraging young
 3 Pennsylvanians who are fighting cancer, honoring young people
 4 who have lost their lives to childhood cancer, expressing
 5 gratitude to the doctors and nurses who provide special care
 6 to patients and families affected by childhood cancer and
 7 encouraging all residents in this Commonwealth to join the
 8 fight against childhood cancer.

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

12 WHEREAS, Childhood cancer is the second leading cause of
 13 death in children under 15 years of age, exceeded only by
 14 accidents, and approximately 1,190 children are expected to die
 15 from cancer in 2017; and

1 WHEREAS, The American Cancer Society estimates that
2 approximately 10,270 children in the United States under 15
3 years of age will be diagnosed with cancer in 2017; and

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

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

10 WHEREAS, As a result of major treatment advances in recent
11 decades, more than 80% of children with cancer now survive five
12 years or more; and

13 WHEREAS, This is a huge increase since the mid-1970s, when
14 the five-year survival rate was less than 60%; and

15 WHEREAS, Survival rates vary depending on the type of cancer
16 and other factors; and

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

21 WHEREAS, Pennsylvania is a leader in the fight against and
22 treatment of childhood cancer with six Children's Oncology Group
23 hospitals, St. Christopher's Hospital for Children, Children's
24 Hospital of Philadelphia, Geisinger Medical Center, Lehigh
25 Valley Hospital-Muhlenburg, Hershey Medical Center and
26 Children's Hospital of Pittsburgh; and

27 WHEREAS, Two of only 10 institutions in the Pediatric Brain
28 Tumor Consortium are in Pennsylvania: Children's Hospital of
29 Philadelphia and Children's Hospital of Pittsburgh; and

30 WHEREAS, Penn State Hershey Children's Hospital is one of

1 only 11 institutions nationwide in the Pediatric Oncology
2 Experimental Therapeutic Investigators' Consortium; therefore be
3 it

4 RESOLVED, That the House of Representatives designate the
5 month of September 2017 as "Childhood Cancer Awareness Month" in
6 Pennsylvania; and be it further

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