

---

THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF PENNSYLVANIA

---

HOUSE RESOLUTION

No. 493 Session of  
2015

---

INTRODUCED BY CALTAGIRONE, COHEN, DIGIROLAMO, KINSEY, DRISCOLL,  
VEREB, READSHAW, KIRKLAND, THOMAS, HENNESSEY, MURT,  
SCHLOSSBERG, BIZZARRO, DAVIS, PHILLIPS-HILL, NEILSON,  
DONATUCCI, WATSON, V. BROWN, MILLARD, McNEILL, WHEELAND,  
MAHONEY AND ROSS, SEPTEMBER 18, 2015

---

INTRODUCED AS NONCONTROVERSIAL RESOLUTION UNDER RULE 35,  
SEPTEMBER 18, 2015

---

A RESOLUTION

1 Recognizing dwarfism.

2 WHEREAS, Dwarfism is a rare medical condition, with an  
3 estimated 30,000 people in the United States and more than  
4 650,000 people worldwide having some type of dwarfism; and

5 WHEREAS, Dwarfism affects bone growth but generally does not  
6 affect cognitive abilities; and

7 WHEREAS, Dwarfism is a recognized condition under the  
8 Americans with Disabilities Act; and

9 WHEREAS, While the medical prognosis for persons with  
10 dwarfism is highly individualized, the majority of persons with  
11 dwarfism enjoy normal intelligence, normal life spans and  
12 reasonably good health; and

13 WHEREAS, Other persons with dwarfism will require surgeries  
14 or other medical interventions to address complications and  
15 maximize mobility; and

1       WHEREAS, The preferred terminology for persons with dwarfism  
2 includes "persons of short stature," "persons having dwarfism"  
3 or "little persons"; and

4       WHEREAS, "Midget," an antiquated term, may offend persons  
5 with dwarfism; and

6       WHEREAS, Persons with dwarfism can turn to support  
7 organizations, such as the Little People of America, Inc.,  
8 (LPA), for guidance on parenting, adoption, education, medical  
9 consultation, physical fitness, peer support, community outreach  
10 and advocacy; and

11       WHEREAS, The oldest and largest support organization for  
12 persons with dwarfism in the United States, LPA is dedicated to  
13 improving the quality of life for people with dwarfism, while  
14 celebrating with great pride their contributions to social  
15 diversity; therefore be it

16       RESOLVED, That the House of Representatives recognize  
17 dwarfism, with the hope of raising positive awareness about  
18 dwarfism and promoting the welfare of persons with dwarfism in  
19 this Commonwealth.