
THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF PENNSYLVANIA

HOUSE RESOLUTION

No. 575 Session of
2017

INTRODUCED BY NEILSON, DRISCOLL, CALTAGIRONE, PASHINSKI, MURT,
DONATUCCI, HENNESSEY, BURNS, DUSH, SONNEY, BIZZARRO,
LONGIETTI, TOOHIL, RABB, BARRAR, DIGIROLAMO, SCHLEGEL CULVER,
R. BROWN, MILLARD, DEAN, READSHAW, SCHLOSSBERG, O'NEILL,
HAHN, MACKENZIE, GOODMAN, WARREN, KINSEY, McNEILL, D. COSTA,
QUIGLEY, ROEBUCK, WATSON, DEASY, PICKETT, HEFFLEY, GILLEN,
B. MILLER, MARSICO, ROZZI, SCHWEYER AND VAZQUEZ,
OCTOBER 19, 2017

INTRODUCED AS NONCONTROVERSIAL RESOLUTION UNDER RULE 35,
OCTOBER 19, 2017

A RESOLUTION

1 Designating the month of October 2017 as "Dyslexia Awareness
2 Month" in Pennsylvania.

3 WHEREAS, Developmental reading disorder, or dyslexia, is a
4 language-based learning disability that occurs when there is a
5 problem in areas of the brain that help interpret language; and

6 WHEREAS, Dyslexia's symptoms include slow or inaccurate
7 reading, poor spelling, poor writing or mixing up similar words;
8 and

9 WHEREAS, Problems experienced by people with dyslexia may
10 include:

11 (1) confusing letters or having difficulty learning the
12 sounds that go with letters;

13 (2) having trouble learning how to speak, recognizing
14 words or determining the meaning of a simple sentence; and

1 (3) having trouble processing the sounds of language,
2 such as rhyming;
3 and

4 WHEREAS, Dyslexia can include disorganization of written and
5 spoken language or struggles in comprehending and concentrating
6 on longer reading assignments; and

7 WHEREAS, Dyslexia may also include difficulty in correctly
8 performing math operations, memorizing number facts or learning
9 a foreign language; and

10 WHEREAS, Dyslexia is a specific information processing
11 problem that does not interfere with one's ability to think or
12 understand complex ideas; and

13 WHEREAS, Dyslexia is not caused by a lack of desire to learn
14 and affects people of all backgrounds and intellectual levels,
15 with the majority of individuals being of normal intelligence
16 and many being above average in intelligence; and

17 WHEREAS, Students with dyslexia are likely to struggle with
18 many aspects of academic learning, are at a higher risk of
19 dropping out of school entirely and often go for years without
20 being properly diagnosed; and

21 WHEREAS, Aside from problems in school, an individual with
22 dyslexia can experience a loss of self-esteem and general
23 reading problems that may persist into adulthood, which can
24 affect the individual's job performance; and

25 WHEREAS, According to the International Dyslexia Association,
26 approximately 85% of students classified as having a primary
27 learning disability have difficulty in reading and language
28 processing; and

29 WHEREAS, The number of people having some symptoms of
30 dyslexia is much higher, perhaps as much as 15% to 20% of the

1 entire United States population; and

2 WHEREAS, There is much hope for students who are correctly
3 diagnosed with this disorder, as they can successfully learn
4 with appropriate teaching methods; and

5 WHEREAS, The earlier that dyslexia is diagnosed, the better
6 for the student; and

7 WHEREAS, Dyslexia is a disorder that often manifests among
8 members of the same family; and

9 WHEREAS, While dyslexia affects individuals throughout their
10 lives, its impact can change at different stages of life; and

11 WHEREAS, Dyslexia is an often misunderstood language-based
12 disability, and a large percentage of residents of this
13 Commonwealth experience one or more symptoms of this disorder;
14 therefore be it

15 RESOLVED, That the House of Representatives designate the
16 month of October 2017 as "Dyslexia Awareness Month" in
17 Pennsylvania.