
THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF PENNSYLVANIA

HOUSE RESOLUTION

No. 826 Session of
2014

INTRODUCED BY BAKER, COHEN, KILLION, SCHLOSSBERG, KOTIK,
FRANKEL, O'NEILL, MILLARD, CALTAGIRONE, PICKETT, V. BROWN,
MCNEILL, NEILSON, LONGIETTI, DAVIS, WATSON, YOUNGBLOOD,
KINSEY, GIBBONS, BISHOP, BIZZARRO, FLYNN, DIGIROLAMO, CAUSER,
GOODMAN, ROCK, MURT, D. COSTA, MENTZER, C. HARRIS, BROWNLEE,
R. BROWN, READSHAW, ROEBUCK AND PAINTER, APRIL 30, 2014

INTRODUCED AS NONCONTROVERSIAL RESOLUTION UNDER RULE 35,
APRIL 30, 2014

A RESOLUTION

1 Recognizing the Pennsylvania Developmental Disabilities Council
2 and honoring the Council for working to improve the lives of
3 people with developmental disabilities.

4 WHEREAS, The Pennsylvania Developmental Disabilities Council
5 (Council) is a group made up of people with disabilities, family
6 members, advocates and State department representatives who work
7 to create favorable conditions for people with developmental
8 disabilities and their families in this Commonwealth; and

9 WHEREAS, The Council is charged with periodically
10 establishing a five-year plan to create a better future for
11 Pennsylvanians with disabilities and is currently in the
12 beginning of the 2012-2016 plan; and

13 WHEREAS, The Council provides funding for proposals from
14 groups and organizations through a competitive bid process to
15 achieve the goals in the plan; and

16 WHEREAS, The Council's vision is a Commonwealth comprised of

1 inclusive communities where all people with disabilities are
2 valued and can thrive; and

3 WHEREAS, In achieving this vision the Council engages in
4 advocacy, systems change and capacity building for people with
5 developmental disabilities and their families in order to:

6 (1) support people with disabilities in taking control
7 of their own lives;

8 (2) ensure access to goods, services and support;

9 (3) build inclusive communities;

10 (4) pursue a cross-disability agenda; and

11 (5) change negative societal attitudes toward people
12 with disabilities;

13 and

14 WHEREAS, The Federal Developmental Disabilities Assistance
15 and Bill of Rights Act first passed in 1963, and the 1970
16 reauthorization of the Developmental Disabilities Assistance and
17 Bill of Rights Act established and authorized funding for
18 Developmental Disabilities Councils in each state; and

19 WHEREAS, The Developmental Disabilities Assistance and Bill
20 of Rights Act continues to provide Federal money to states to
21 fund not only Councils, but also University Centers for
22 Excellence in Developmental Disabilities and Protection and
23 Advocacy Agencies in each state; and

24 WHEREAS, The Council has promoted, funded and championed many
25 issues, including attendant-care programs; self-determined
26 housing initiatives; family support legislation; permanency
27 planning and the Statewide adoption system; shared-ride
28 transportation; training in disability issues for teachers,
29 physicians, dentists and other health care staff;
30 entrepreneurship and other employment opportunities; independent

1 citizen monitoring of the formal service system; and community
2 supports for medically fragile children; therefore be it
3 RESOLVED, That the House of Representatives recognize the
4 Pennsylvania Developmental Disabilities Council and honor the
5 Council for working to improve the lives of people with
6 developmental disabilities and, in doing so, the lives of all
7 Pennsylvanians.