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THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF PENNSYLVANIA

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HOUSE RESOLUTION

No. 845 Session of  
2014

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INTRODUCED BY BAKER, MIRABITO, SCHLEGEL CULVER, COHEN,  
HENNESSEY, PASHINSKI, KIRKLAND, BIZZARRO, CALTAGIRONE,  
BOBACK, PICKETT, CAUSER, DIGIROLAMO, McNEILL, CUTLER,  
MILLARD, EVERETT, LUCAS, READSHAW, SCHLOSSBERG, THOMAS,  
DONATUCCI, CLAY, C. HARRIS, WATSON, MAJOR, MARSICO AND  
MAHONEY, MAY 5, 2014

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INTRODUCED AS NONCONTROVERSIAL RESOLUTION UNDER RULE 35,  
MAY 5, 2014

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A RESOLUTION

1 Designating Wednesday, May 7, 2014, as "Pennsylvania Health Care  
2 Information Technology Awareness Day."

3 WHEREAS, Health care costs represent 17.2% of Gross Domestic  
4 Product (GDP) nationally; and

5 WHEREAS, Seventy percent of health care transactions are  
6 paper based; and

7 WHEREAS, The health care industry invests only 5% of revenue  
8 on information technology and management systems versus 10.5% of  
9 other data-intensive industries such as banking; and

10 WHEREAS, The United States spends more than \$2.8 trillion on  
11 health care a year, yet some of that spending is unnecessary and  
12 spent on clinical and administrative waste, theft and excess  
13 costs; and

14 WHEREAS, Spending on health care has risen over 40% in the  
15 last decade; and

1       WHEREAS, In Pennsylvania, medical assistance/Medicaid  
2 spending in 2013 was \$20.3 billion; and

3       WHEREAS, A study by the Commonwealth Fund has demonstrated  
4 that the use of automated clinical decision support systems can  
5 result in the net reduction of \$538 per patient per hospital  
6 stay; and

7       WHEREAS, The Institute of Medicine reports there are at least  
8 1.5 million preventable adverse drug events per year, each  
9 adding more than \$8,700 to the cost of a hospital stay; and

10       WHEREAS, The Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services  
11 reports that between 2011 and 2013, 14,997 providers and  
12 facilities received \$692,246,548 in Federal incentive payments  
13 to implement electronic health records; and

14       WHEREAS, Health care providers in this Commonwealth report an  
15 improved ability to recruit physicians coming out of medical  
16 school when advanced information technology is employed at their  
17 sites; and

18       WHEREAS, In 2012, Senate Bill No. 8 was signed into law,  
19 enacting the Pennsylvania eHealth Information Technology Act and  
20 establishing the Pennsylvania eHealth Partnership Authority and  
21 a health information exchange; therefore be it

22       RESOLVED, That the House of Representatives designate  
23 Wednesday, May 7, 2014, as "Pennsylvania Health Care Information  
24 Technology Awareness Day"; and be it further

25       RESOLVED, That the House of Representatives recognize the  
26 importance of raising awareness of health care information  
27 technology and the vital role it will play in helping to save  
28 lives and reduce the cost of health care for all Pennsylvanians;  
29 and be it further

30       RESOLVED, That the House of Representatives welcome friends,

1 supporters and members of the Healthcare Information and  
2 Management Systems Society (HIMSS) on their visit to the State  
3 Capitol to promote better health care in this Commonwealth  
4 through broader adoption of advanced health care information  
5 technology and management systems on that day.