
THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF PENNSYLVANIA

SENATE RESOLUTION

No. 138 Session of
2013

INTRODUCED BY HUGHES, DINNIMAN, KITCHEN, BAKER, MENSCH,
WASHINGTON, GREENLEAF, FERLO, STACK, WOZNIAK, TEPLITZ,
ERICKSON, FONTANA, SCHWANK, WILLIAMS, KASUNIC, SMITH, BROWNE,
RAFFERTY, FARNESE, ALLOWAY, PILEGGI AND SOLOBAY, MAY 13, 2013

INTRODUCED AND ADOPTED, MAY 13, 2013

A RESOLUTION

1 Designating May 2013 as "American Stroke Month" in Pennsylvania.

2 WHEREAS, Stroke is a leading cause of serious long-term
3 disability and the fourth leading cause of death in the United
4 States, killing about 130,000 people nationwide and 6,600
5 citizens of this Commonwealth each year; and

6 WHEREAS, Stroke prevalence is projected to increase by 24.9%
7 between 2010 and 2030 and the direct medical costs for treating
8 stroke are expected to increase by 238%, from \$28.3 billion in
9 2010 to \$95.6 billion by 2030; and

10 WHEREAS, New and effective treatments have been developed to
11 treat and minimize the severity and damaging effect of strokes,
12 but much more research is needed; and

13 WHEREAS, Americans are more aware of the risk factors and
14 warning signs for stroke than in the past, but according to a
15 recent survey, one-third of adults cannot identify any symptoms;
16 and

1 WHEREAS, The F.A.S.T. warning signs and symptoms of stroke
2 stand for face drooping, arm weakness, speech difficulty and
3 time to call 911; and beyond F.A.S.T., additional stroke warning
4 signs and symptoms include sudden numbness or weakness of the
5 face, arm or leg, especially on one side of the body; sudden
6 confusion, trouble speaking or understanding; sudden trouble
7 seeing in one or both eyes; sudden trouble walking, dizziness,
8 loss of balance or coordination; and sudden severe headache with
9 no known cause; and

10 WHEREAS, A new study by the American Stroke Association shows
11 that the quick actions by Emergency Medical Services (EMS)
12 professionals are instrumental in saving lives from stroke and
13 producing better outcomes for stroke survivors, but more than a
14 third of stroke patients fail to use EMS; and

15 WHEREAS, Throughout American Stroke Month 2013 the American
16 Stroke Association will honor those EMS professionals and stroke
17 survivors who have acted F.A.S.T. in a stroke emergency to save
18 lives by highlighting and sharing their stories; and

19 WHEREAS, The American Stroke Association's "Power To End
20 Stroke" program will increase physical activity in at-risk
21 populations through the online Power Fitness challenge; and

22 WHEREAS, The challenge will track individuals' physical
23 activity through a mobile app or device and encourage them to
24 make exercise a daily activity through prize offerings and
25 community support; therefore be it

26 RESOLVED, That the Senate designate May 2013 as "American
27 Stroke Month" in Pennsylvania and urge all citizens of our
28 Commonwealth to familiarize themselves with the risk factors
29 associated with stroke, recognize the warning signs and symptoms
30 and on first signs of a stroke dial 911 immediately so that we

1 might begin to reduce the devastating effects of stroke on our
2 population.