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THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF PENNSYLVANIA

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SENATE RESOLUTION

No. 159 Session of  
2015

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INTRODUCED BY TARTAGLIONE, GREENLEAF, DINNIMAN, TEPLITZ,  
SABATINA, BAKER, FONTANA, KITCHEN, MCGARRIGLE, SCAVELLO,  
VULAKOVICH, SCHWANK, MENSCH, GORDNER, PILEGGI, RAFFERTY,  
YUDICHAK AND COSTA, JUNE 24, 2015

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INTRODUCED AND ADOPTED, JUNE 24, 2015

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A RESOLUTION

1 Recognizing the month of September 2015 as "National Spinal Cord  
2 Injury Awareness Month" in Pennsylvania.

3 WHEREAS, Twelve thousand spine-related injuries occur in the  
4 United States each year; and

5 WHEREAS, More than 300,000 Americans, including 40,000  
6 veterans, have spine-related injuries; and

7 WHEREAS, Spinal cord injuries often result in paralysis of  
8 either the lower body, paraplegia, or the upper and lower body,  
9 quadriplegia, and often can cause respiratory illness, sleep  
10 apnea, a form of high blood pressure known as autonomic  
11 dysreflexia, inability to regulate body temperature, chronic  
12 pain, and impaired use of bladder, bowel and reproductive  
13 organs; and

14 WHEREAS, Spinal cord injury may also increase a person's risk  
15 for osteoporosis, obesity, high cholesterol and diabetes,  
16 therefore making physical activity especially important to the  
17 physical and emotional well-being of persons with spinal cord

1 injuries; and

2 WHEREAS, Every 48 minutes another person in the United States  
3 becomes paralyzed from a spinal cord injury; and

4 WHEREAS, The Senate affirms the necessity of addressing  
5 spinal cord-related injuries, including the particular  
6 challenges of spinal cord injury care and recovery for persons  
7 with new or existing injuries and their loved ones and  
8 caregivers; and

9 WHEREAS, The Senate further notes the significance of  
10 ensuring access to related resources and benefits, advancing  
11 medical research and disseminating public education and  
12 outreach; and

13 WHEREAS, "National Spinal Cord Injury Awareness Month" offers  
14 an opportunity for individuals to learn about spinal cord  
15 injuries, recognize the daily challenges encountered by injured  
16 persons and acknowledge the achievements of Americans living  
17 with spinal cord injury; and

18 WHEREAS, The Department of Veterans Affairs, a leading  
19 advocate of "National Spinal Cord Injury Awareness Month,"  
20 offers inpatient, outpatient, home care and respite care  
21 services, as well as specialty health care programs for persons  
22 living with a spinal cord injury and facilitates the progress of  
23 related research through its network of specialized care centers  
24 and primary care teams; and

25 WHEREAS, The Buoniconti Fund, in furtherance of its work  
26 addressing spinal cord injury awareness and its national and  
27 international objectives related to curing paralysis, is urging  
28 all persons in our communities to support its largest campaign;  
29 therefore be it

30 RESOLVED, That the Senate recognize the month of September

1 2015 as "National Spinal Cord Injury Awareness Month" in  
2 Pennsylvania.