
THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF PENNSYLVANIA

SENATE RESOLUTION

No. 184 Session of
2017

INTRODUCED BY TARTAGLIONE, BROOKS, FONTANA, DINNIMAN, FARNESE,
GREENLEAF, BARTOLOTTA, SABATINA, ARGALL, BROWNE, MENSCH,
SCAVELLO, BREWSTER, COSTA, GORDNER, BOSCOLA, WHITE,
VULAKOVICH, HUTCHINSON, BAKER, AUMENT, YUDICHAK, RAFFERTY AND
HUGHES, SEPTEMBER 19, 2017

INTRODUCED AND ADOPTED, SEPTEMBER 19, 2017

A RESOLUTION

1 Recognizing the month of September 2017 as "National Spinal Cord
2 Injury Awareness Month" in Pennsylvania.

3 WHEREAS, Seventeen thousand spinal cord injuries occur in the
4 United States each year; and

5 WHEREAS, Approximately 300,000 Americans, including 40,000
6 veterans, have spinal cord 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 organs;
13 and

14 WHEREAS, Spinal cord injury may also increase an individual's
15 risk for osteoporosis, obesity, high cholesterol and diabetes,
16 therefore making physical activity especially important to the

1 physical and emotional well-being of individuals with spinal
2 cord injuries; and

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

5 WHEREAS, The Senate affirms the necessity of addressing
6 spinal cord injuries and the particular challenges of spinal
7 cord injury care and recovery for individuals with new or
8 existing injuries and for their loved ones and 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 individuals and acknowledge the achievements of Americans living
17 with spinal cord injury; and

18 WHEREAS, The Department of Veterans Affairs, a leading
19 advocate for "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
22 individuals living with a spinal cord injury and facilitates the
23 progress of related research through its network of specialized
24 care centers 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 individuals in our communities to support its largest
29 campaign; therefore be it

30 RESOLVED, That the Senate recognize the month of September

1 2017 as "National Spinal Cord Injury Awareness Month" in
2 Pennsylvania.