
THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF PENNSYLVANIA

SENATE RESOLUTION

No. 234 Session of
2017

INTRODUCED BY VULAKOVICH, BREWSTER, BROWNE, DINNIMAN, FOLMER,
FONTANA, GREENLEAF, KILLION, RAFFERTY AND SABATINA,
OCTOBER 25, 2017

INTRODUCED AND ADOPTED, OCTOBER 25, 2017

A RESOLUTION

1 Designating the month of October 2017 as "Dyslexia Awareness
2 Month" in Pennsylvania.

3 WHEREAS, Developmental reading disorder, or dyslexia, is a
4 language-based learning disability that occurs when there is a
5 problem in areas of the brain that help interpret language; and

6 WHEREAS, Dyslexia's symptoms include slow or inaccurate
7 reading, poor spelling, poor writing or mixing up similar words;
8 and

9 WHEREAS, Problems experienced by people with dyslexia may
10 include:

11 (1) confusing letters or having difficulty learning the
12 sounds that go with letters;

13 (2) having trouble learning how to speak, recognizing
14 words or determining the meaning of a simple sentence; and

15 (3) having trouble processing the sounds of language,
16 such as rhyming;

17 and

1 WHEREAS, Dyslexia can include disorganization of written and
2 spoken language or struggles in comprehending and concentrating
3 on longer reading assignments; and

4 WHEREAS, Dyslexia may also include difficulty in correctly
5 performing math operations, memorizing number facts or learning
6 a foreign language; and

7 WHEREAS, Dyslexia is a specific information processing
8 problem that does not interfere with one's ability to think or
9 understand complex ideas; and

10 WHEREAS, Dyslexia is not caused by a lack of desire to learn
11 and affects people of all backgrounds and intellectual levels,
12 with the majority of individuals being of normal intelligence
13 and many being above average in intelligence; and

14 WHEREAS, Students with dyslexia are likely to struggle with
15 many aspects of academic learning, are at a higher risk of
16 dropping out of school entirely and often go for years without
17 being properly diagnosed; and

18 WHEREAS, Aside from problems in school, an individual with
19 dyslexia can experience a loss of self-esteem and general
20 reading problems that may persist into adulthood, which can
21 affect the individual's job performance; and

22 WHEREAS, According to the International Dyslexia Association,
23 approximately 85% of students classified as having a primary
24 learning disability have difficulty in reading and language
25 processing; and

26 WHEREAS, The number of people having some symptoms of
27 dyslexia is much higher, perhaps as much as 15% to 20% of the
28 entire United States population; and

29 WHEREAS, There is much hope for students who are correctly
30 diagnosed with this disorder, as they can successfully learn

1 with appropriate teaching methods; and

2 WHEREAS, The earlier that dyslexia is diagnosed, the better
3 for the student; and

4 WHEREAS, Dyslexia is a disorder that often manifests among
5 members of the same family; and

6 WHEREAS, While dyslexia affects individuals throughout their
7 lives, its impact can change at different stages of life; and

8 WHEREAS, Dyslexia is an often misunderstood language-based
9 disability, and a large percentage of residents of this
10 Commonwealth experience one or more symptoms of this disorder;
11 therefore be it

12 RESOLVED, That the Senate designate the month of October 2017
13 as "Dyslexia Awareness Month" in Pennsylvania.