

THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF PENNSYLVANIA

SENATE RESOLUTION

No. 239 Session of
2017

INTRODUCED BY MARTIN, AUMENT, DINNIMAN, SABATINA, RESCHENTHALER,
GREENLEAF, FARNESE, BOSCOLA, BREWSTER, TARTAGLIONE, WAGNER,
HUGHES, RAFFERTY, BROWNE, BAKER, MENSCH, KILLION, COSTA,
YUDICHAK, FOLMER, WARD, BARTOLOTTA, WILLIAMS AND BLAKE,
NOVEMBER 13, 2017

INTRODUCED AND ADOPTED, NOVEMBER 13, 2017

A RESOLUTION

1 Recognizing November 14, 2017, as "World Diabetes Day" in
2 Pennsylvania.

3 WHEREAS, The Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC)
4 defines diabetes as a chronic disease that affects one's ability
5 to process food into energy properly; and

6 WHEREAS, The inability to process food properly affects an
7 individual's ability to create enough insulin or fully utilize
8 the individual's own insulin; and

9 WHEREAS, Over time, abnormalities with insulin levels can
10 lead to serious health complications, including heart disease,
11 stroke, kidney disease, blindness, limb amputations and early
12 death; and

13 WHEREAS, There are three main types of diabetes: Type 1, Type
14 2 and gestational diabetes; and

15 WHEREAS, Risk factors for diabetes include genetic factors,
16 high blood pressure, low HDL cholesterol or high triglycerides,

gestational diabetes during pregnancy, being 45 years of age or older, being a member of a high-risk ethnic group, being overweight and having an inactive lifestyle; and

WHEREAS, According to the National Diabetes Statistics Report of 2017 released by the CDC, approximately 30.3 million individuals, or roughly 9% of the United States population, live with the disease; and

WHEREAS, Of this number, approximately 7.2 million, or nearly 24%, are undiagnosed; and

WHEREAS, Approximately 13% of Pennsylvanians live with some form of diabetes; and

WHEREAS, In 2014, diabetes contributed to approximately 3,755 deaths in this Commonwealth; and

WHEREAS, In 2015, diabetes contributed to nearly 80,000 deaths nationwide; and

WHEREAS, Diabetes was one of the five leading causes of health-related deaths in this Commonwealth in 2014 and the seventh leading cause of death nationwide in 2015; and

WHEREAS, The rate of deaths related to diabetes has increased over the past four decades; and

WHEREAS, There is currently no cure for diabetes, but an individual's risk of developing Type 2 diabetes can be greatly reduced through a healthy diet, physical activity and medication; and

WHEREAS, The majority of avoidable costs associated with treating diabetes result from inpatient hospitalizations and emergency room visits, which could be reduced by proactively managing diabetes-associated conditions in an outpatient setting; and

WHEREAS, Approximately \$245 billion was spent in the United

1 States on treating the disease as recently as 2012; and
2 WHEREAS, Management of diabetes and other chronic conditions
3 is a major cost driver for programs such as Medicaid and
4 Medicare; and

5 WHEREAS, "World Diabetes Day" was first introduced by the
6 International Diabetes Federation and the World Health
7 Organization in 1991 to raise awareness of the escalating
8 incidence of diabetes worldwide; and

9 WHEREAS, November 14 of each year was chosen to mark "World
10 Diabetes Day" because it represents the birthday of Frederick
11 Banting, who, along with Charles Best, is credited with the
12 discovery of insulin in 1921; and

13 WHEREAS, "World Diabetes Day" became an official United
14 Nations international observance in 2007 pursuant to the
15 December 2006 resolution of the General Assembly of the United
16 Nations recognizing diabetes as "a chronic, debilitating and
17 costly disease associated with major complications that pose
18 severe risks for families, countries and the entire world";
19 therefore be it

20 RESOLVED, That the Senate recognize November 14, 2017, as
21 "World Diabetes Day" in Pennsylvania; and be it further

22 RESOLVED, That residents in communities throughout this
23 Commonwealth recommit to raising awareness of diabetes and the
24 need for education and services for individuals afflicted with
25 diabetes.