## THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF PENNSYLVANIA

## SENATE RESOLUTION

No. 311

Session of 2020

INTRODUCED BY HUTCHINSON, BARTOLOTTA, BLAKE, BREWSTER, BROWNE, COSTA, DINNIMAN, FONTANA, IOVINO, KILLION, LEACH, MARTIN, MENSCH, STREET AND J. WARD, MARCH 13, 2020

REFERRED TO RULES AND EXECUTIVE NOMINATIONS, MARCH 13, 2020

## A RESOLUTION

- 1 Raising awareness for apraxia in Pennsylvania.
- 2 WHEREAS, Childhood apraxia of speech is a challenging and
- 3 complicated neurological speech disorder affecting children; and
- WHEREAS, This disorder makes it difficult or impossible for
- 5 children to accurately produce sounds, syllables or words
- 6 despite knowing what they want to say and having a good
- 7 understanding of language; and
- 8 WHEREAS, Little is known about apraxia, which has no known
- 9 cause; and
- 10 WHEREAS, Apraxia has no cure and much more research into this
- 11 disorder is needed; and
- 12 WHEREAS, Parents whose children have been diagnosed with
- 13 apraxia and many speech therapists who work with those children
- 14 have emphasized the importance of early intervention and the
- 15 significant impact it can have on speech development in
- 16 children; and
- 17 WHEREAS, The American Speech-Language-Hearing Association

- 1 reports that the number of children diagnosed with childhood
- 2 apraxia of speech is on the rise; and
- 3 WHEREAS, Research shows that children with childhood apraxia
- 4 of speech have more success when they receive frequent and
- 5 intensive treatment; and
- 6 WHEREAS, Children and adults may be diagnosed with apraxia;
- 7 therefore be it
- 8 RESOLVED, That the Senate raise awareness for apraxia in
- 9 Pennsylvania; and be it further
- 10 RESOLVED, That the Senate seek to give a voice to those who
- 11 have been diagnosed with apraxia, raise awareness of apraxia and
- 12 strengthen the support systems for children with apraxia so that
- 13 each child is afforded the best opportunity to develop speech.