
THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF PENNSYLVANIA

SENATE RESOLUTION

No. 347 Session of
2022

INTRODUCED BY TARTAGLIONE, KEARNEY, BROWNE, HUGHES, MUTH,
FONTANA, CAPPELLETTI, MARTIN, BARTOLOTTA, KANE, HUTCHINSON,
DILLON, HAYWOOD, SCAVELLO, COMMITTA, STEFANO, STREET, COSTA,
MASTRIANO AND BREWSTER, SEPTEMBER 29, 2022

REFERRED TO RULES AND EXECUTIVE NOMINATIONS, SEPTEMBER 29, 2022

A RESOLUTION

1 Recognizing the month of September 2022 as "National Spinal Cord
2 Injury Awareness Month" in Pennsylvania.

3 WHEREAS, Approximately 17,000 spinal cord injuries occur in
4 the United States each year; and

5 WHEREAS, Approximately 294,000 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

10 WHEREAS, Spinal cord injuries often can cause respiratory
11 illness, sleep apnea, a form of high blood pressure known as
12 autonomic dysreflexia, inability to regulate body temperature,
13 chronic pain and impaired use of bladder, bowel and reproductive
14 organs; and

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

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

18 WHEREAS, The United States Department of Veterans Affairs
19 (VA), a leading advocate for "National Spinal Cord Injury
20 Awareness Month," offers inpatient, outpatient, home care and
21 respite care services as well as specialty health care programs
22 for individuals living with a spinal cord injury; and

23 WHEREAS, The VA facilitates the progress of related research
24 through its network of specialized care centers and primary care
25 teams; therefore be it

26 RESOLVED, That the Senate recognize the month of September
27 2022 as "National Spinal Cord Injury Awareness Month" in
28 Pennsylvania.