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THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF PENNSYLVANIA

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SENATE RESOLUTION

No. 480 Session of  
2015

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INTRODUCED BY WILEY, FONTANA, BROWNE, GREENLEAF, KILLION,  
MENSCH, RAFFERTY, RESCHENTHALER, BREWSTER, DINNIMAN, KITCHEN,  
SABATINA, TEPLITZ AND COSTA, OCTOBER 25, 2016

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INTRODUCED AND ADOPTED, OCTOBER 25, 2016

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A RESOLUTION

1 Designating the month of November 2016 as "Epilepsy Awareness  
2 Month" in Pennsylvania.

3 WHEREAS, Epilepsy affects more than 200,000 Pennsylvanians;  
4 and

5 WHEREAS, Epilepsy is one of the world's oldest known medical  
6 conditions; and

7 WHEREAS, Epilepsy is not a widely understood medical  
8 condition; and

9 WHEREAS, Diagnosis of this chronic brain condition often  
10 leads to fear, discrimination and isolation; and

11 WHEREAS, As the third most common neurological disorder in  
12 the United States, following stroke and Alzheimer's disease,  
13 epilepsy affects 5 million Americans of all ages; and

14 WHEREAS, Approximately 200,000 new cases of epilepsy are  
15 diagnosed each year, most often in young children or senior  
16 citizens; and

17 WHEREAS, One in ten Americans will experience a seizure at

1 some point in their lives and 3% of them will eventually develop  
2 epilepsy; and

3 WHEREAS, One in three people with epilepsy endure  
4 uncontrollable seizures because no available treatment is  
5 effective; and

6 WHEREAS, Epilepsy is characterized by recurring seizures that  
7 are physical reactions to sudden, brief, excessive electrical  
8 discharges in brain cells; and

9 WHEREAS, These excessive electrical discharges impact the  
10 brain, causing seizure disorders; and

11 WHEREAS, Seizures, often thought to be full-body convulsions,  
12 can be brief muscle spasms or unconscious behaviors that appear  
13 to be attention lapses; and

14 WHEREAS, Increased awareness of epilepsy eases fears of the  
15 condition and improves the lives of the millions of affected  
16 individuals and those who care for them; and

17 WHEREAS, Encouraging the support of epilepsy research  
18 programs can lead to better and brighter futures for individuals  
19 with epilepsy; therefore be it

20 RESOLVED, That the Senate designate the month of November  
21 2016 as "Epilepsy Awareness Month" in Pennsylvania.