

THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF PENNSYLVANIA

SENATE RESOLUTION

No. 88 Session of 2023

INTRODUCED BY MARTIN, PHILLIPS-HILL, BROOKS, BOSCOLA, BROWN, SANTARSIERO, LAUGHLIN, CAPPELLETTI, LANGERHOLC, COMITTA, ROTHMAN, FARRY, PENNYCUICK, ARGALL, AUMENT, DUSH, SCHWANK, CULVER, HUTCHINSON, COSTA AND BREWSTER, APRIL 17, 2023

REFERRED TO RULES AND EXECUTIVE NOMINATIONS, APRIL 17, 2023

A RESOLUTION

1 Recognizing March 21, 2023, as "World Down Syndrome Day" in
2 Pennsylvania.

3 WHEREAS, According to the World Health Organization, Down
4 syndrome is a genetic condition that occurs in approximately 1
5 in 1,100 live births worldwide; and

6 WHEREAS, According to the Centers for Disease Control and
7 Prevention, Down syndrome occurs in approximately 1 in 700 live
8 births in the United States; and

9 WHEREAS, It is difficult to determine the number of
10 individuals currently living with Down syndrome worldwide,
11 however, some sources estimate the number to be more than 6
12 million; and

13 WHEREAS, The most common form of Down syndrome, Trisomy 21,
14 is due to an error in cell division, just prior to or during
15 conception, with the 21st chromosome dividing in three instead
16 of two, resulting in an individual being born with 47 instead of
17 46 chromosomes in each cell; and

1 WHEREAS, Early intervention, appropriate speech, physical and
2 occupational therapies and quality education programs enable
3 individuals with Down syndrome to adapt and thrive; and

4 WHEREAS, Thanks to advances in medical treatments and
5 continuing research, life expectancy for individuals with Down
6 syndrome worldwide has increased dramatically, with a large
7 majority living beyond 50 years of age; and

8 WHEREAS, Individuals with Down syndrome consistently prove
9 their ability to overcome obstacles; and

10 WHEREAS, With interventions, programs and the support of
11 family and the community, individuals with Down syndrome attend
12 school and participate in postsecondary opportunities, with many
13 going on to college; and

14 WHEREAS, Many individuals with Down syndrome obtain full-time
15 employment, enter into marriage and participate in their
16 communities; and

17 WHEREAS, Individuals living with Down syndrome have excelled
18 in various fields, including becoming global influencers,
19 fashion designers, lobbyists, accomplished musicians, teachers,
20 leaders of large nonprofits and small business entrepreneurs;
21 therefore be it

22 RESOLVED, That the Senate recognize March 21, 2023, as "World
23 Down Syndrome Day" in Pennsylvania; and be it further

24 RESOLVED, That the Senate recognize the numerous
25 contributions that individuals with Down syndrome and their
26 families make not only in our great Commonwealth but across the
27 globe.