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THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF PENNSYLVANIA

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SENATE RESOLUTION

No. 239 Session of  
2024

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INTRODUCED BY MARTIN, COMITTA, PHILLIPS-HILL, VOGEL, FONTANA,  
REGAN, FARRY, COSTA, BARTOLOTTA, TARTAGLIONE, BROOKS,  
HAYWOOD, ROBINSON, SANTARSIERO, LAUGHLIN, DUSH, BROWN,  
CAPPELLETTI, ARGALL, BOSCOLA, J. WARD, HUTCHINSON, MASTRIANO,  
STREET, KANE, MILLER AND DILLON, FEBRUARY 12, 2024

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REFERRED TO RULES AND EXECUTIVE NOMINATIONS, FEBRUARY 12, 2024

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A RESOLUTION

1 Recognizing February 15, 2024, as "International Childhood  
2 Cancer Day" in Pennsylvania.

3 WHEREAS, "International Childhood Cancer Day" increases  
4 awareness of children fighting pediatric cancer across the  
5 globe; and

6 WHEREAS, "International Childhood Cancer Day" honors those  
7 children who lost their battle with cancer; and

8 WHEREAS, Cancer is one of the leading causes of death among  
9 children; and

10 WHEREAS, According to the American Childhood Cancer  
11 Organization, a child battling pediatric cancer dies every three  
12 minutes; and

13 WHEREAS, The rate of children diagnosed with cancer has  
14 increased since the 1970s; and

15 WHEREAS, The most recent data provided by the International  
16 Agency for Research on Cancer estimated that in 2020

1 approximately 280,000 children and adolescents were diagnosed  
2 with cancer; and

3 WHEREAS, In 2020, the International Agency for Research on  
4 Cancer reported approximately 110,000 pediatric cancer  
5 fatalities; and

6 WHEREAS, The number of pediatric cancer cases is likely  
7 higher than what is currently reported due to the lack of  
8 registries in countries across the globe; and

9 WHEREAS, Children from impoverished countries lack access to  
10 medicines and treatment that could save their lives; and

11 WHEREAS, The five-year survival rate among children diagnosed  
12 with cancer is approximately 85%; and

13 WHEREAS, The survival rate depends heavily on the type of  
14 cancer and other factors; and

15 WHEREAS, Due to childrens' bodies still growing and cancer  
16 treatments largely geared toward use on adults, children are  
17 more likely to experience long-term side effects from treatment;  
18 and

19 WHEREAS, Possible late effects of cancer treatments include  
20 heart or lung problems, slowed or delayed development, changes  
21 in sexual development and the ability to have children, learning  
22 disabilities and increased risk of secondary forms of cancer;  
23 and

24 WHEREAS, According to the American Childhood Cancer  
25 Organization, pediatric cancer patients enter clinical trials  
26 more often than adult patients; and

27 WHEREAS, Despite advancing treatments and decreasing  
28 mortality rates, cancer remains the number one disease  
29 associated with childhood deaths; therefore be it

30 RESOLVED, That the Senate recognize February 15, 2024, as

1 "International Childhood Cancer Day" in Pennsylvania; and be it  
2 further

3       RESOLVED, That the Senate celebrate its progress and the  
4 progress of all related organizations in aiding children  
5 battling childhood cancer while simultaneously renewing its  
6 commitment to the cause; and be it further

7       RESOLVED, That the Senate encourage young Pennsylvanians who  
8 are fighting cancer, honor young people who have lost their  
9 lives to childhood cancer, express gratitude to the doctors,  
10 nurses and parents who provide special care to patients and  
11 families affected by childhood cancer and encourage all  
12 residents in this Commonwealth to join the fight against  
13 childhood cancer.