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## **MEMORANDUM**

**DATE:** April 17, 2017

TO: All House Members

FROM: Representative Patty Kim

SUBJECT: Resolution Designating April 16, 2017 as "National Healthcare Decisions Day"

In the near future, I will be introducing a resolution designating April 16, 2017 as "National Healthcare Decisions Day" in Pennsylvania.

This year marks the 10th annual National Healthcare Decisions Day (NHDD) initiative, which is a collaboration of national, state, and community organizations created to inspire, educate and empower the public and providers about the importance of advance care planning.

As an observance that initially began in 2006 as "Virginia Advance Directives Day," under the astute leadership of its founder Nathan Kottkamp, the NHDD initiative has since evolved into a nationwide advocacy effort that has been tremendously effective in encouraging both healthcare providers and the general public alike to broach and normalize the conversation about possible end-of-life healthcare decisions.

This year's NHDD theme is "It Always Seems Too Early, Until It's Too Late," which is a fitting rallying cry to invoke in our collective mission to enable adult-aged Pennsylvanians to control the fate of their own healthcare.

I ask that my colleagues please join me in co-sponsoring this very important resolution.