

LEGISLATIVE REFERENCE BUREAU

RESOLUTION

INTRODUCED June 12, 20 19

BY Representative Dan Maul, District NO. 91

BY \_\_\_\_\_, District NO. \_\_\_\_\_

BY \_\_\_\_\_, District NO. \_\_\_\_\_

BY \_\_\_\_\_, District NO. \_\_\_\_\_

BY \_\_\_\_\_, District NO. \_\_\_\_\_

See next page for additional co-sponsors.

<b>Referred to Committee on</b>	
Date _____	20__
Reported _____	20__
<b>As Committed-Amended</b>	
<b>Recommendation</b>	
_____	
By Hon. _____	



## A RESOLUTION

1 Designating the month of September 2019 as "Hirschsprung's  
2 Disease Awareness Month" in Pennsylvania to coincide with a  
3 global initiative in Australia.

4 WHEREAS, Hirschsprung's disease (HD) is a rare birth defect  
5 that causes an absence of certain intestinal nerve cells, which  
6 inhibits or prevents the elimination of waste from a newborn  
7 baby; and

8 WHEREAS, HD exists 1 in 5,000 births and it is four times  
9 more common in boys than girls; and

10 WHEREAS, Symptoms of HD are common in other diseases and  
11 consequently may be difficult to recognize; and

12 WHEREAS, The symptoms of HD include all of the following:

- 13 (1) Delayed passage of newborn meconium.
- 14 (2) Ongoing chronic constipation.
- 15 (3) Excessive vomiting.
- 16 (4) Unexplained fever.
- 17 (5) Hard mass and bloated belly;

18 and

1       WHEREAS, Nontreatment of HD can lead to malnourishment, a  
2 perforated bowel or even an unexpected death from sepsis; and

3       WHEREAS, HD develops during the 4th to 12th weeks of  
4 gestation when nerve cells are migrating from the brain, down  
5 the spinal column, to form the intestines; and

6       WHEREAS, There are degrees of severity of HD based on where  
7 the migration of nerve cells stops during fetal development; and

8       WHEREAS, A biopsy of internal bowels is necessary for  
9 diagnosis of HD; and

10       WHEREAS, When a surgical correction is necessary to treat HD,  
11 a pull-through surgery removes the nonfunctioning portion of the  
12 intestine; and

13       WHEREAS, In the most severe forms of HD, an intestinal  
14 transplant is necessary to treat HD; and

15       WHEREAS, If an individual is suspected of having HD, the  
16 individual should seek immediate medical attention; therefore be  
17 it

18       RESOLVED, That the House of Representatives designate the  
19 month of September 2019 as "Hirschsprung's Disease Awareness  
20 Month" in Pennsylvania to coincide with a global initiative in  
21 Australia; and be it further

22       RESOLVED, That the House of Representatives seek to make  
23 caregivers of newborn babies in this Commonwealth aware of HD,  
24 allowing them to seek an early diagnosis and proper treatment of  
25 the disease if necessary.