
THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF PENNSYLVANIA

HOUSE RESOLUTION

No. 322 Session of
2015

INTRODUCED BY BAKER, BIZZARRO, DIGIROLAMO, V. BROWN,
SCHLOSSBERG, MILLARD, BOBACK, COHEN, KILLION, SCHWEYER,
PICKETT, BROWNLEE, KINSEY, LONGIETTI, HARHAI, PAYNE, McNEILL,
YOUNGBLOOD, HARHART, RAPP, HELM, GOODMAN, READSHAW, WARD,
THOMAS, MAJOR, DEASY, WATSON, O'NEILL, MURT, McCARTER AND
BRADFORD, MAY 5, 2015

INTRODUCED AS NONCONTROVERSIAL RESOLUTION UNDER RULE 35,
MAY 5, 2015

A RESOLUTION

1 Recognizing the Pennsylvania Developmental Disabilities Council
2 and honoring the Council for working to improve the lives of
3 people with developmental disabilities.

4 WHEREAS, The Pennsylvania Developmental Disabilities Council
5 (Council) is a group made up of people with disabilities, family
6 members, advocates and State department representatives who work
7 to create favorable conditions for people with developmental
8 disabilities and their families in this Commonwealth; and

9 WHEREAS, The Council is charged with periodically
10 establishing a five-year plan to create a better future for
11 Pennsylvanians with disabilities; and

12 WHEREAS, The Council provides funding for proposals from
13 groups and organizations through a competitive bid process to
14 achieve the goals in the plan; and

15 WHEREAS, The Council's vision is a Commonwealth comprised of
16 inclusive communities where all people with disabilities are

1 valued and can thrive; and

2 WHEREAS, In achieving this vision the Council engages in
3 advocacy, systems change and capacity building for people with
4 developmental disabilities and their families in order to:

5 (1) support people with disabilities in taking control
6 of their own lives;

7 (2) ensure access to goods, services and support;

8 (3) build inclusive communities;

9 (4) pursue a cross-disability agenda; and

10 (5) change negative societal attitudes toward people
11 with disabilities;

12 and

13 WHEREAS, The Federal Developmental Disabilities Assistance
14 and Bill of Rights Act first passed in 1963, and the 1970
15 reauthorization of the Developmental Disabilities Assistance and
16 Bill of Rights Act established and authorized funding for
17 Developmental Disabilities Councils in each state; and

18 WHEREAS, The Developmental Disabilities Assistance and Bill
19 of Rights Act continues to provide Federal money to states to
20 fund not only Councils, but also University Centers for
21 Excellence in Developmental Disabilities and Protection and
22 Advocacy Agencies in each state; and

23 WHEREAS, The Council has promoted, funded and championed many
24 issues, including attendant-care programs; self-determined
25 housing initiatives; family support legislation; permanency
26 planning and the Statewide adoption system; shared-ride
27 transportation; training in disability issues for teachers,
28 physicians, dentists and other health care staff;
29 entrepreneurship and other employment opportunities; independent
30 citizen monitoring of the formal service system; and community

1 supports for medically fragile children; therefore be it
2 RESOLVED, That the House of Representatives recognize the
3 Pennsylvania Developmental Disabilities Council and honor the
4 Council for working to improve the lives of people with
5 developmental disabilities and, in doing so, the lives of all
6 Pennsylvanians.