



HOUSE HEALTH COMMITTEE

VOTING MEETING

Tuesday, September 29th, 2026

9:00am

Room G-50, Irvis Office Building
Harrisburg, PA

1. Call to Order

2. Attendance

3. **HB2657 PN3668 (Kosierowski)**

An Act providing for the regulation and sale of kratom products; prohibiting the sale of synthetic kratom products, and taxing natural kratom products.

HB2702 PN3773 (Frankel)

An Act repealing the sunset provisions for the Pennsylvania Health Care Cost Containment Council.

HB1411 PN1612 (Hanbidge)

An Act providing for perimenopause and menopause education.

Amendment A04293 (Hanbidge)

Adds mental health providers to the list of entities with which the Department of Health may partner.

HR591 PN3799 (Frankel)

A Resolution designating October 20, 2026, as "Community Health Worker Awareness Day" in Pennsylvania.

HR597 PN3831 (T. Davis)

A Resolution recognizing the month of September 2026 as "Alopecia Areata Awareness Month" in Pennsylvania.

HR604 PN3849 (O'Mara)

A Resolution recognizing the month of September 2026 as "Suicide Prevention Awareness Month" and September 10, 2026, as "World Suicide Prevention Day" in Pennsylvania.

HR605 PN3850 (Brennan)

A Resolution recognizing the month of September 2026 as "Chiari Malformation Awareness Month" in Pennsylvania.

HR616 PN3877 (Marcell)

A Resolution recognizing the month of September 2026 as "Ovarian Cancer Awareness Month" in Pennsylvania.

HR625 PN3900 (Boyd)

A Resolution recognizing October 6, 2026, as "World Cerebral Palsy Day" in Pennsylvania.

4. Any other business that may come before the committee.
5. Adjournment

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

DEMOCRATIC COMMITTEE BILL ANALYSIS

Bill No:	HB2657 PN3668	Prepared By:	Erika Fricke
Committee:	Health		717-908-7023
Sponsor:	Kosierowski, Bridget	Executive Director:	Erika Fricke
Date:	8/20/2026		

A. Brief Concept

Regulates the sale of natural kratom products and prohibits the sale of synthetic kratom

C. Analysis of the Bill

HB 2657 regulates the sale of natural kratom products and prohibits the sale of any synthetic kratom products.

Definitions

Natural Kratom products are defined as any intermediate or finished product containing kratom leaf or raw kratom leaf powder. Natural kratom products cannot be mixed with any other non-kratom product.

Synthetic Kratom products include:

- synthesized kratom including 7-hydroxymitragynine (7-OH) of more than .5 percent of the total alkaloid composition
- mitragynine pseudoindoxyl of more than 10 parts per million
- a synthetic alkaloid, including synthetic mitragynine, synthetic 7-hydroxymitragynine or any other synthetically derived compound of kratom
- any product that contains kratom and is not a natural kratom product.

Prohibition of synthetic kratom

The manufacture, delivery or sale of synthetic kratom is prohibited. Should a pharmaceutical use of kratom be found, practitioners registered under the controlled substance, drug, device and cosmetic act or practitioners licensed to prescribe a synthetic kratom product would be able to prescribe or dispense.

Regulation of natural kratom

The sale of natural kratom products is limited to registered processors and retailers. Processors include any individual or company turning kratom into a natural kratom product or selling or distributing a natural kratom product, retailers include those only selling, providing or distributing a natural kratom product. Retailers must be selling to the end consumer.

Registration

A processor or retailer must register annually with the Department of Health prior to the manufacture or sale of kratom.

The Department of Health must create a procedure for registration related to kratom production and sales, including a registration and renewal fee up to \$100 annually.

Any fees collected must be used in enforcement of this act.

Prohibition on youth sales

Any processor or retailer selling natural kratom must verify the age of purchaser using a scanning device. Natural kratom products may not be sold to anyone under 21 years of age. Data obtained may be used to verify compliance with the law, and otherwise may not be sold or shared.

Labeling

Natural kratom for sale must include a label stating:

- The name and address of the processor of the natural kratom product
- A disclosure reading
 - "These products have not been evaluated by the United States Food and Drug Administration."
- Verification that the kratom is in its natural form
- A warning to keep the product out of reach of minors
- Any other public health warning the Department of Health believes is necessary.

Child-Safe Packaging

Natural kratom products must be in resealable, child resistant packaging.

Advertising and marketing restrictions

Natural kratom products cannot be advertised, branded, marketed, packaged, labeled or manufactured in a way that appeals to children or young adults under 21. The products cannot make medical claims or promote the use of kratom as a medical product. The natural kratom product cannot be sold in a way that makes it appear to be any other food, candy or beverage product for sale commercially.

Penalties

Penalty for selling synthetic kratom

Any company selling synthetic kratom is guilty of a misdemeanor, and can be sentenced to a fine up to \$15,000 or a five-year sentence, or both.

Penalty for violating regulations for the sale of natural kratom

Any company that violates the registration, labeling, advertising, packaging, or youth sales restrictions for natural kratom is subject a civil penalty up to \$10,000 for each offense.

Local and state law enforcement, as well as the Attorney General, are all empowered to investigate violations of the sale of natural kratom and can enforce the law.

After a third violation, local government can pull the permit or license of a business violating the law related to natural kratom.

Selling natural kratom in a way that doesn't comport with this law is a violation of the Unfair Trade and Practices and Consumer Protection Law; the Attorney General can take action under the law, and individuals can also file lawsuits.

Consumers injured by natural kratom sales that violate the law can sue to stop the sale of kratom and can recover damages.

Taxation

Natural kratom products will be taxed in the same manner as tobacco products.

Effective Date:

Sections 4 and 5(b), related to the regulated sale of natural kratom products and penalties for violation of that sale takes effect in 90 days.

Sections 1, 2 and 3, including the ban on synthetic kratom, take place immediately.

G. Relevant Existing Laws

Kratom is currently unregulated in Pennsylvania.

On July 6, 2026, the Drug Enforcement Administration published an intent to temporarily schedule mitragynine pseudoindoxyl, MGM-15 and MGM-16, including their isomers, esters, ethers, salts and salts of isomers, esters, and ethers. The temporary schedule will treat these forms of synthesized kratom as Schedule I controlled substances, with associated penalties for related to the manufacture, distribution, importation, or possession of these substances.

[Federal Register, Volume 91, No 127](#)

E. Prior Session (Previous Bill Numbers & House/Senate Votes)

Senate Bill 614 of 2023-2024 was referred to the Senate Health and Human Services Committee

House Bill 2357 of 2021-2022 was amended in the House Health Committee, and referred to appropriations, where it received no further votes.

This document is a summary of proposed legislation and is prepared only as general information for use by the Democratic Members and Staff of the Pennsylvania House of Representatives. The document does not represent the legislative intent of the Pennsylvania House of Representatives and may not be utilized as such.

THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF PENNSYLVANIA

HOUSE BILL

No. 2657 Session of
2026

INTRODUCED BY KOSIEROWSKI, PROKOPIAK, DONAHUE, FRANKEL, BRENNAN,
CONKLIN, MALAGARI, DOUGHERTY, BOROWSKI, OTTEN, SANCHEZ,
STEELE, SAPPEY, CEPEDA-FREYTIZ, INGLIS, NEILSON, CURRY,
MUNROE, CIRESI, PUGH, PROBST, KRUPA, MADDEN, T. DAVIS, KHAN,
MCNEILL, BOYD, STEHR, MERSKI AND O'MARA, JUNE 22, 2026

REFERRED TO COMMITTEE ON HEALTH, JUNE 22, 2026

AN ACT

1 Providing for the regulation and sale of kratom products;
2 imposing a tobacco products tax on natural kratom products;
3 imposing duties on the Department of Health; and imposing
4 penalties.

5 The General Assembly of the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania
6 hereby enacts as follows:

7 Section 1. Short title.

8 This act shall be known and may be cited as the Regulation
9 and Oversight of Kratom Act.

10 Section 2. Definitions.

11 The following words and phrases when used in this act shall
12 have the meanings given to them in this section unless the
13 context clearly indicates otherwise:

14 "Dealer." A wholesaler or retailer.

15 "Department." The Department of Health of the Commonwealth.

16 "Kratom." The plant *Mitragyna speciosa* and any part of the
17 plant.

1 "Manufacturer." A person that produces natural kratom
2 products.

3 "Natural form." Dried, cut and sifted kratom leaf or raw
4 kratom leaf powder.

5 "Natural kratom product." An intermediate or finished
6 product containing kratom in natural form that is not mixed with
7 a nonkratom product.

8 "Processor." A person registered in this Commonwealth to:

9 (1) Manufacture or perform any other necessary activity
10 to make kratom into a natural kratom product.

11 (2) Sell, provide or distribute a natural kratom product
12 to a retailer.

13 "Retailer." A person registered in this Commonwealth to
14 sell, provide or distribute a natural kratom product to a
15 consumer.

16 "Synthetic kratom product." An intermediate or finished
17 product that meets any of the following:

18 (1) has a level of 7-hydroxymitragynine in the alkaloid
19 fraction exceeding 0.5% of the total alkaloid composition of
20 a kratom product;

21 (2) has a level of mitragynine pseudoindoxyl of more
22 than 10 parts per million;

23 (3) contains a synthetic alkaloid, including synthetic
24 mitragynine, synthetic 7-hydroxymitragynine or any other
25 synthetically derived compound of kratom; or

26 (4) is a product that contains kratom and is not a
27 natural kratom product.

28 "Transaction scan device." A device capable of deciphering,
29 in an electronically readable format, the information encoded on
30 the magnetic strip, chip or barcode of an identification card.

1 "Wholesaler." A person engaged in the business of selling
2 natural kratom products that receives, stores, sells, exchanges
3 or distributes natural kratom products to retailers or other
4 wholesalers in this Commonwealth or retailers that purchase from
5 a manufacturer or from another wholesaler that has not paid the
6 tax imposed by this act.

7 Section 3. Prohibited acts relating to synthetic kratom
8 products.

9 (a) Prohibition.--The manufacture, delivery, sale or
10 possession with intent to manufacture, deliver or sell a
11 synthetic kratom product is prohibited.

12 (b) Exception.--Subsection (a) shall not apply to:

13 (1) A person registered under the act of April 14, 1972
14 (P.L.233, No.64), known as The Controlled Substance, Drug,
15 Device and Cosmetic Act.

16 (2) A practitioner registered or licensed by the
17 appropriate State board to prescribe or dispense a synthetic
18 kratom product.

19 Section 4. Regulation of kratom products.

20 (a) Registration of processors and retailers.--

21 (1) Prior to performing an action of a processor or
22 retailer, a person shall register with the department. A
23 processor and retailer shall renew its registration annually.

24 (2) The department shall:

25 (i) Establish a procedure for a person to register
26 and requirements for approval.

27 (ii) Establish a registration and renewal fee,
28 neither of which may exceed \$100.

29 (3) All fees collected by the department shall be paid
30 to the department and used to enforce this act.

1 (b) Prohibition.--

2 (1) A processor or retailer may not sell, provide or
3 distribute a natural kratom product to an individual under 21
4 years of age. A retailer shall utilize a transaction scan
5 device to confirm the age of an individual involved in a
6 transaction involving a natural kratom product.

7 (2) A retailer may not sell or share data from the use
8 of a transaction scan device.

9 (3) The retailer may use the data to show the department
10 or law enforcement that the retailer is in compliance with
11 this act.

12 (c) Labeling.--A retailer may only sell a natural kratom
13 product that bears a label that includes the following:

14 (1) The name and address of the processor responsible
15 for manufacturing the natural kratom product.

16 (2) A disclosure that reads:

17 These products have not been evaluated by the United
18 States Food and Drug Administration.

19 (3) A verification that the natural kratom product is in
20 its natural form.

21 (4) A warning to keep out of reach of minors.

22 (5) Any other public health warning the department may
23 require as a condition of registration.

24 (d) Packaging.--A natural kratom product shall be labeled
25 and placed in a resealable, child-resistant package prior to
26 sale by a retailer.

27 (e) Prohibitions.--A processor or retailer may not
28 advertise, brand, market, package, label or manufacture a
29 natural kratom product in a way that:

30 (1) Appeals to children or individuals under 21 years of

age.

(2) Makes medical claims or promotes use of a natural kratom product for a medical purpose.

(3) Shares a likeness to commercially sold food, candy or beverages.

Section 5. Penalties.

(a) Violations of section 3.--A person or retailer that knowingly or intentionally violates section 3 commits a misdemeanor and shall, upon conviction, be sentenced to pay a fine not exceeding \$15,000 or to imprisonment not exceeding five years, or both.

(b) Violations of section 4.--A person that knowingly or intentionally violates section 4 shall be subject to a civil penalty not to exceed \$10,000 for each offense. Each day a person violates section 4 shall constitute a separate offense.

The following shall apply:

(1) The Attorney General, a State or local law enforcement agency or a local government unit may investigate a violation or suspected violation of section 4 and engage in enforcement measures, including entering into an intergovernmental agreement.

(2) Upon the conduct of a third or subsequent violation of section 4, a local government unit may suspend, revoke or deny a license, permit or other authorization to conduct business, issued by the local government unit and held by the person or for which the person has applied.

(3) A violation of section 4 is an unfair or deceptive act or practice under the act of December 17, 1968 (P.L.1224, No.387), known as the Unfair Trade Practices and Consumer Protection Law. Remedies, penalties and authority granted to

1 the Attorney General under the Unfair Trade Practices and
2 Consumer Protection Law shall be available for the
3 enforcement of this act.

4 (4) In addition to the authority granted to the Attorney
5 General under this subsection, a consumer injured by a
6 violation of section 4 may bring an action to enjoin a
7 processor or retailer from offering for sale, selling,
8 providing, processing or distributing kratom or natural
9 kratom products and to recover actual damages sustained. The
10 court shall award attorney fees and costs to the prevailing
11 party.

12 Section 6. Tobacco products tax.

13 The tobacco products tax under section 1202-A(a) of the act
14 of March 4, 1971 (P.L.6, No.2), known as the Tax Reform Code of
15 1971, is imposed on a dealer or manufacturer at the time the
16 natural kratom product is first sold to a retailer in this
17 Commonwealth as provided under Article XII-A of the Tax Reform
18 Code of 1971.

19 Section 7. Effective date.

20 This act shall take effect as follows:

21 (1) Sections 4 and 5(b) shall take effect in 90 days.

22 (2) The remainder of this act shall take effect
23 immediately.

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

DEMOCRATIC COMMITTEE BILL ANALYSIS

Bill No:	HB2702 PN3773	Prepared By:	Patrick O'Rourke (717) 787-4296
Committee:	Health	Executive Director:	Erika Fricke
Sponsor:	Frankel, Dan		
Date:	8/6/2026		

A. Brief Concept

Removes the sunset provision governing the Pennsylvania Health Care Cost Containment Council (PHC4).

C. Analysis of the Bill

PHC4 was most recently recertified in April 20, 2020 as part of the Title 35 (Health and Safety) and Title 42 (Judicial Code) omnibus amendments. That act incorporated a 10-year sunset provision governing over chapter establishing PHC4. This bill removes that sunset provision.

Effective Date:

60 days.

G. Relevant Existing Laws

[Title 35 Chapter 33](#) establishes PHC4 as an independent state agency. Its charge is to improve transparency in health care, contain health care costs, improve quality, and provide policymakers, researchers, providers, insurers, and the public with objective information about Pennsylvania's health care system.

PHC4 has two main statutory functions:

- 1) Collect and publish health care data: this is primarily achieved by collecting data from Pennsylvania hospitals and ambulatory surgery centers, including data on hospital charges, outpatient procedures, charges and payments, patient outcomes, and other related financial data.
- 2) Review mandated health insurance benefits: at the request of the Governor or General Assembly, PHC4 is charged with analyzing the impact of a health benefit mandate on insurance premiums, health care utilization, health care access, and public health outcomes.

E. Prior Session (Previous Bill Numbers & House/Senate Votes)

N/A.

This document is a summary of proposed legislation and is prepared only as general information for use by the Democratic Members and Staff of the Pennsylvania House of Representatives. The document does not represent the legislative intent of the Pennsylvania House of Representatives and may not be utilized as such.

THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF PENNSYLVANIA

HOUSE BILL

No. 2702 Session of
2026

INTRODUCED BY FRANKEL, CUTLER, HANBIDGE, D. WILLIAMS, KINKEAD,
SANCHEZ, HILL-EVANS, WAXMAN, HOWARD, SAMUELSON, GUZMAN,
BOROWSKI, RIVERA AND GALLAGHER, JULY 14, 2026

REFERRED TO COMMITTEE ON HEALTH, JULY 14, 2026

AN ACT

1 Amending Title 35 (Health and Safety) of the Pennsylvania
2 Consolidated Statutes, in health care cost containment,
3 repealing provisions relating to expiration.

4 The General Assembly of the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania
5 hereby enacts as follows:

6 Section 1. Section 3317 of Title 35 of the Pennsylvania
7 Consolidated Statutes is repealed:

8 [§ 3317. Expiration.

9 This chapter shall expire 10 years after the effective date
10 of this section.]

11 Section 2. This act shall take effect in 60 days.

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

DEMOCRATIC COMMITTEE BILL ANALYSIS

Bill No:	HB1411 PN1612	Prepared By:	Sonia Kaufman (717) 787-4296
Committee:	Health	Executive Director:	Erika Fricke
Sponsor:	Hanbidge, Liz		
Date:	8/13/2025		

A. Brief Concept

Directs the Department of Health (DOH) to provide perimenopause and menopause education in partnership with health care providers.

C. Analysis of the Bill

House Bill 1411 directs DOH to enter into partnerships with health care providers to educate women on issues related to perimenopause and menopause. DOH must create digital and printed educational materials in coordination with partnering health care providers to cover:

- Symptoms of and treatments for perimenopause and menopause.
- Symptoms warranting a provider visit.
- The biological process behind perimenopause and menopause.
- How to talk to family and friends about perimenopause and menopause.
- Any other information that the Department of Health deems necessary.

Effective Date:

60 days.

G. Relevant Existing Laws

Act 175 of 1929 ("The Administrative Code of 1929"), which this bill amends and which governs the duties of the Department of Health.

E. Prior Session (Previous Bill Numbers & House/Senate Votes)

House Bill 807 of 2023 (Hanbidge) was voted out of the House Health Committee by a vote of 20-1; voted out of the House Rules Committee by a vote of 33-0; voted out of the House Appropriations Committee by a vote of 22-15; and passed third consideration and final passage by a vote of 106-97. It was then referred to the Senate Health & Human Services Committee, where it did not receive further consideration.

House Bill 2007 of 2021 (Hanbidge) was referred to the House Health Committee, where it did not receive further consideration.

This document is a summary of proposed legislation and is prepared only as general information for use by the Democratic Members and Staff of the Pennsylvania House of Representatives. The document does not represent the legislative intent of the Pennsylvania House of Representatives and may not be utilized as such.

THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF PENNSYLVANIA

HOUSE BILL

No. 1411 Session of 2025

INTRODUCED BY HANBIDGE, SHUSTERMAN, PIELLI, HOHENSTEIN, GIRAL, SANCHEZ, PARKER, KRUEGER, KHAN, KENYATTA, HILL-EVANS, OTTEN, CERRATO, GREEN AND MADDEN, MAY 5, 2025

REFERRED TO COMMITTEE ON HEALTH, MAY 6, 2025

AN ACT

1 Amending the act of April 9, 1929 (P.L.177, No.175), entitled
 2 "An act providing for and reorganizing the conduct of the
 3 executive and administrative work of the Commonwealth by the
 4 Executive Department thereof and the administrative
 5 departments, boards, commissions, and officers thereof,
 6 including the boards of trustees of State Normal Schools, or
 7 Teachers Colleges; abolishing, creating, reorganizing or
 8 authorizing the reorganization of certain administrative
 9 departments, boards, and commissions; defining the powers and
 10 duties of the Governor and other executive and administrative
 11 officers, and of the several administrative departments,
 12 boards, commissions, and officers; fixing the salaries of the
 13 Governor, Lieutenant Governor, and certain other executive
 14 and administrative officers; providing for the appointment of
 15 certain administrative officers, and of all deputies and
 16 other assistants and employes in certain departments, boards,
 17 and commissions; providing for judicial administration; and
 18 prescribing the manner in which the number and compensation
 19 of the deputies and all other assistants and employes of
 20 certain departments, boards and commissions shall be
 21 determined," in powers and duties of the Department of Health
 22 and its departmental administrative and advisory boards,
 23 providing for perimenopause and menopause education.

24 The General Assembly of the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania
 25 hereby enacts as follows:

26 Section 1. The act of April 9, 1929 (P.L.177, No.175), known
 27 as The Administrative Code of 1929, is amended by adding a
 28 section to read:

Section 2126.1. Perimenopause and Menopause Education.--The Department of Health shall have the power, and its duty shall be, to:

(1) Enter into partnerships with health care providers, including obstetricians and gynecologists, and community-based health centers and hospitals to educate women on the symptoms, processes and other issues surrounding perimenopause and menopause so that women may be prepared for perimenopause and menopause.

(2) Create informational materials in electronic and physical form, in coordination with the partners described in paragraph (1), which may be distributed to or accessed by women who are determined by their health care provider to be experiencing or are soon to be experiencing perimenopause and menopause. The informational materials must include:

(i) Symptoms of and treatments for perimenopause and menopause.

(ii) Symptoms of perimenopause and menopause for which a woman would consult a health care provider.

(iii) The biological process behind perimenopause and menopause.

(iv) How to talk to family and friends about perimenopause and menopause.

(v) Any other information that the Department of Health deems necessary to prepare and educate women regarding perimenopause and menopause.

Section 2. This act shall take effect in 60 days.

LEGISLATIVE REFERENCE BUREAU

AMENDMENTS TO HOUSE BILL NO. 1411

Sponsor:

Printer's No. 1612

1 Amend Bill, page 2, line 5, by striking out "and" where it
2 occurs the second time

3 Amend Bill, page 2, line 6, by inserting after "hospitals"
4 and mental health providers

THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF PENNSYLVANIA

HOUSE BILL

No. 1411 Session of
2025

INTRODUCED BY HANBIDGE, SHUSTERMAN, PIELLI, HOHENSTEIN, GIRAL,
SANCHEZ, PARKER, KRUEGER, KHAN, KENYATTA, HILL-EVANS, OTTEN,
CERRATO, GREEN AND MADDEN, MAY 5, 2025

REFERRED TO COMMITTEE ON HEALTH, MAY 6, 2025

AN ACT

1 Amending the act of April 9, 1929 (P.L.177, No.175), entitled
2 "An act providing for and reorganizing the conduct of the
3 executive and administrative work of the Commonwealth by the
4 Executive Department thereof and the administrative
5 departments, boards, commissions, and officers thereof,
6 including the boards of trustees of State Normal Schools, or
7 Teachers Colleges; abolishing, creating, reorganizing or
8 authorizing the reorganization of certain administrative
9 departments, boards, and commissions; defining the powers and
10 duties of the Governor and other executive and administrative
11 officers, and of the several administrative departments,
12 boards, commissions, and officers; fixing the salaries of the
13 Governor, Lieutenant Governor, and certain other executive
14 and administrative officers; providing for the appointment of
15 certain administrative officers, and of all deputies and
16 other assistants and employes in certain departments, boards,
17 and commissions; providing for judicial administration; and
18 prescribing the manner in which the number and compensation
19 of the deputies and all other assistants and employes of
20 certain departments, boards and commissions shall be
21 determined," in powers and duties of the Department of Health
22 and its departmental administrative and advisory boards,
23 providing for perimenopause and menopause education.

24 The General Assembly of the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania

25 hereby enacts as follows:

26 Section 1. The act of April 9, 1929 (P.L.177, No.175), known
27 as The Administrative Code of 1929, is amended by adding a
28 section to read:

A04293 Amendment in Context

Section 2126.1. Perimenopause and Menopause Education.--The Department of Health shall have the power, and its duty shall be, to:

(1) Enter into partnerships with health care providers, including obstetricians and gynecologists, and community-based health centers and hospitals and mental health providers to educate women on the symptoms, processes and other issues surrounding perimenopause and menopause so that women may be prepared for perimenopause and menopause.

(2) Create informational materials in electronic and physical form, in coordination with the partners described in paragraph (1), which may be distributed to or accessed by women who are determined by their health care provider to be experiencing or are soon to be experiencing perimenopause and menopause. The informational materials must include:

(i) Symptoms of and treatments for perimenopause and menopause.

(ii) Symptoms of perimenopause and menopause for which a woman would consult a health care provider.

(iii) The biological process behind perimenopause and menopause.

(iv) How to talk to family and friends about perimenopause and menopause.

(v) Any other information that the Department of Health deems necessary to prepare and educate women regarding perimenopause and menopause.

Section 2. This act shall take effect in 60 days.

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

DEMOCRATIC COMMITTEE AMENDMENT REPORT

HB1411 - PN1612 (Hanbidge, Liz)

Directs the Department of Health (DOH) to provide perimenopause and menopause education in partnership with health care providers.

A-04293 (Hanbidge, Liz) (Committee)

Adding mental health providers to the list of health care providers that DOH needs to partner with.

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

DEMOCRATIC COMMITTEE BILL ANALYSIS

Bill No:	HR0591 PN3799	Prepared By:	Lillie Simmons (717) 705-1875
Committee:	Health	Executive Director:	Erika Fricke
Sponsor:	Frankel, Dan		
Date:	9/8/2026		

A. Brief Concept

Designates October 20, 2026, as "Community Health Worker Awareness Day."

C. Analysis of the Bill

Community Health Workers (CHW) are frontline public health workers who incorporate their unique understanding of the communities they serve in Pennsylvania to help individuals access care. CHWs operate under many titles, including community health worker, community health representative, outreach worker, and community health advocate. These workers are employed across a variety of settings, including hospitals, outpatient care centers, schools, shelters, managed care and social service organizations to support children, families, older adults, disabled individuals, and others. CHWs address needs related to transportation, housing, food access, language access, and insurance to ensure that Pennsylvanians across all communities can access care.

Pennsylvania currently employs over 2,400 CHWs and faces demand for an additional 288 CHWs annually. The state has established the Physical HealthChoices Program to cover these services and help sustain this vital workforce. Interventions by community health workers play an important role in prevention and improving health outcomes while reducing avoidable health care utilization and generating cost savings for the Commonwealth.

Effective Date:

N/A.

G. Relevant Existing Laws

N/A.

E. Prior Session (Previous Bill Numbers & House/Senate Votes)

N/A.

This document is a summary of proposed legislation and is prepared only as general information for use by the Democratic Members and Staff of the Pennsylvania House of Representatives. The document does not represent the legislative intent of the Pennsylvania House of Representatives and may not be utilized as such.

THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF PENNSYLVANIA

HOUSE RESOLUTION

No. 591 Session of
2026

INTRODUCED BY FRANKEL, MAYES, GUZMAN, D. WILLIAMS, WAXMAN, HILL-
EVANS, DEASY, HOHENSTEIN, RIVERA, SANCHEZ, GALLAGHER,
PASHINSKI AND MAZZOCCO, JULY 24, 2026

REFERRED TO COMMITTEE ON HEALTH, JULY 27, 2026

A RESOLUTION

1 Designating October 20, 2026, as "Community Health Worker
2 Awareness Day" in Pennsylvania.

3 WHEREAS, Community health workers are trusted, community-
4 rooted public health workers who are members of, or have an
5 unusually close understanding of, the communities they serve;
6 and

7 WHEREAS, These workers serve as liaisons, links and
8 intermediaries between communities, health care providers,
9 public health agencies, social service organizations, community-
10 based organizations and local resources; and

11 WHEREAS, Community health workers help individuals and
12 families access care, navigate complex health and social service
13 systems, connect to resources, manage chronic conditions and
14 improve health and well-being; and

15 WHEREAS, They provide culturally and linguistically
16 appropriate health education, outreach, advocacy, referral,
17 follow-up, care coordination, system navigation, informal

1 counseling, social support and community connection; and

2 WHEREAS, These workers are known by many titles, including
3 community health worker, promotor or promotora de salud,
4 community health representative, outreach worker, patient
5 navigator, community health advocate, care guide and other
6 community-facing roles; and

7 WHEREAS, Community health workers are a distinct workforce
8 whose value is grounded in trust, lived experience, community
9 connection, cultural understanding, language access,
10 relationship-building, advocacy and practical knowledge of local
11 systems and resources; and

12 WHEREAS, Community health workers provide services in all 67
13 counties of this Commonwealth; and

14 WHEREAS, As of June 2026, Pennsylvania has 728 Certified
15 Community Health Workers; and

16 WHEREAS, Pennsylvania workforce data estimates approximately
17 2,492 employed community health workers in this Commonwealth and
18 an annual demand for an additional approximately 288 community
19 health workers; and

20 WHEREAS, Community health workers are employed across a broad
21 range of settings, including community-based organizations,
22 federally qualified health centers, hospitals, health systems,
23 physician offices, outpatient care centers, public health
24 agencies, managed care organizations, local government, home
25 health providers, social service organizations, schools and
26 other community-serving entities; and

27 WHEREAS, Community health workers support Pennsylvanians
28 across the lifespan, including children, families, older adults,
29 pregnant and parenting individuals, people living with chronic
30 conditions, people with disabilities, individuals experiencing

1 food or housing insecurity, people with behavioral health needs
2 and people facing barriers to care; and

3 WHEREAS, These workers help address barriers that affect
4 health and well-being, including transportation, housing, food
5 access, health literacy, language access, insurance navigation,
6 social isolation, difficulty accessing care and difficulty
7 connecting to community-based services; and

8 WHEREAS, They play an important role in prevention, chronic
9 disease management, maternal and child health, asthma care,
10 diabetes care, cardiovascular health, behavioral health, cancer
11 screening, public health outreach, resource navigation and care
12 coordination; and

13 WHEREAS, Research has demonstrated that community health
14 worker interventions can improve health outcomes, strengthen
15 chronic disease management, support primary care connection,
16 reduce avoidable health care utilization, improve care
17 coordination and generate cost savings; and

18 WHEREAS, Pennsylvania has established a Certified Community
19 Health Worker credential that recognizes the education,
20 experience, supervision and professional responsibilities of
21 community health workers; and

22 WHEREAS, Pennsylvania's Physical HealthChoices Program began
23 covering community health worker services in 2026, marking a
24 significant step toward sustainable financing and formal
25 recognition of the workforce; and

26 WHEREAS, The continued development of the community health
27 worker workforce requires investment in training, certification,
28 supervision, career pathways, fair compensation, sustainable
29 reimbursement, data infrastructure and meaningful leadership in
30 decisions affecting this workforce; therefore be it

1 RESOLVED, That the House of Representatives designate October
2 20, 2026, as "Community Health Worker Awareness Day" in
3 Pennsylvania; and be it further

4 RESOLVED, That the House of Representatives recognize the
5 significant contributions of community health workers to health
6 care, public health, social services and communities across this
7 Commonwealth; and be it further

8 RESOLVED, That the House of Representatives support continued
9 awareness, investment and policy development that helps
10 community health workers improve access to care, strengthen
11 prevention and chronic disease management, support communities
12 across this Commonwealth and create meaningful career pathways
13 for community-rooted professionals.

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

DEMOCRATIC COMMITTEE BILL ANALYSIS

Bill No:	HR0597 PN3831	Prepared By:	Lillie Simmons (717) 705-1875
Committee:	Health	Executive Director:	Erika Fricke
Sponsor:	Davis, Tina		
Date:	9/8/2026		

A. Brief Concept

Recognizes the month of September 2026 as "Alopecia Areata Awareness Month."

C. Analysis of the Bill

Alopecia areata is an autoimmune disease affecting almost 7 million people in the United States. The disease causes hair loss ranging from coin-sized patches to complete loss of hair and can affect those of any age and ethnic group. Alopecia areata patchy, the most common form of the disease, causes one or more coin-sized hairless patches on the scalp or other areas of the body. Alopecia totalis causes a complete loss of hair on the scalp while alopecia universalis causes complete loss of hair on the scalp, face, and body.

Though the disease is not life-threatening, painful, or contagious, those living with alopecia can struggle with self-image and the stigma surrounding hair loss. This stigma can be alleviated through education and awareness of the disease. Hair replacement and treatments that help restart hair growth are available and can ease the emotional challenges that those with alopecia areata often experience.

Effective Date:

N/A.

G. Relevant Existing Laws

N/A.

E. Prior Session (Previous Bill Numbers & House/Senate Votes)

2023-24 Legislative Session

- [HR 538, PN 3651](#) (Marcell)
 - Recognizes the month of September 2024 as "Alopecia Areata Awareness Month."
 - Reported as committed from House Health on 10/2/2024 (25-0)

This document is a summary of proposed legislation and is prepared only as general information for use by the Democratic Members and Staff of the Pennsylvania House of Representatives. The document does not represent the legislative intent of the Pennsylvania House of Representatives and may not be utilized as such.

THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF PENNSYLVANIA

HOUSE RESOLUTION

No. 597 Session of
2026

INTRODUCED BY T. DAVIS, MARCELL, TIBURCIO, VENKAT, McNEILL,
HILL-EVANS, RIVERA, HOHENSTEIN, M. JONES, KRUPA, PROBST,
MALAGARI, SANCHEZ, GALLAGHER AND CEPEDA-FREYTIZ,
AUGUST 19, 2026

REFERRED TO COMMITTEE ON HEALTH, AUGUST 19, 2026

A RESOLUTION

1 Recognizing the month of September 2026 as "Alopecia Areata
2 Awareness Month" in Pennsylvania.

3 WHEREAS, Alopecia areata affects as many as 7 million people
4 in America and causes hair loss, which can range from patches of
5 hair, typically circular and coin-size, to complete hair loss;
6 and

7 WHEREAS, Alopecia areata affects people of all ages and
8 ethnic groups; and

9 WHEREAS, There are three types of alopecia areata; and

10 WHEREAS, Alopecia areata patchy is the most common form,
11 which causes the formation of one or more coin-sized hairless
12 patches on the scalp or other areas of the body; and

13 WHEREAS, Alopecia totalis causes a total loss of the hair on
14 the scalp; and

15 WHEREAS, Alopecia universalis causes complete loss of hair on
16 the scalp, face and body; and

17 WHEREAS, While there is no known cause for this autoimmune

disease, some evidence shows that genes that control T regulator cells may be involved in alopecia areata, and patients who have other autoimmune diseases, such as autoimmune polyglandular syndrome or autoimmune thyroid disease, may be predictive of poor outcomes with treatment; and

WHEREAS, Although there is no known cure, it is generally possible for alopecia areata patients to regrow hair because the hair follicle is not totally destroyed or scarred; and

WHEREAS, Hair loss often carries a stigma that can only be dispelled with education and knowledge, and, for many with this disease, the emotional aspect of living with hair loss can be the greatest challenge; and

WHEREAS, During the month of September, many communities across America are holding special events to bring awareness to this disease; and

WHEREAS, Organizations are continuously supporting research that may one day put an end to this disease; and

WHEREAS, Currently, researchers are studying the development of hair follicles in hopes of finding treatments that will address the cause of this disease and investigating genetic clues with the hopes of developing therapies and early intervention strategies; and

WHEREAS, Fortunately, alopecia areata is not a life-threatening illness, nor is it painful or contagious, and most people with this disease are generally healthy; and

WHEREAS, Alopecia areata does not interfere with life or long-term plans and, while the course of the disease varies and is generally unpredictable, hair often regrows; and

WHEREAS, There are treatments that can help restart hair regrowth, and hair replacement can ease the emotional struggles

1 for those who have less than optimal regrowth; and

2 WHEREAS, There is a need for enhanced public awareness and
3 education regarding alopecia areata; therefore be it

4 RESOLVED, That the House of Representatives recognize the
5 month of September 2026 as "Alopecia Areata Awareness Month" in
6 Pennsylvania; and be it further

7 RESOLVED, That the House of Representatives encourage people
8 in this Commonwealth to become better informed about and aware
9 of alopecia areata.

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

DEMOCRATIC COMMITTEE BILL ANALYSIS

Bill No:	HR0604 PN3849	Prepared By:	Lillie Simmons (717) 705-1875
Committee:	Health	Executive Director:	Erika Fricke
Sponsor:	O'Mara, Jennifer		
Date:	9/4/2026		

A. Brief Concept

Recognizes the month of September 2026 as "Suicide Prevention Awareness Month" and September 10, 2026, as "World Suicide Prevention Day."

C. Analysis of the Bill

Suicide is a persistent public health problem that leaves serious and long-lasting impacts on communities in the United States and throughout the world. In the U.S., suicide is the tenth leading cause of death and the second leading cause of death for children ages 10 to 14, with over 14 million individuals having seriously contemplated suicide during 2024. Though these rates have begun to decline, lack of awareness regarding mental health treatment options and stigma surrounding mental health prevent individuals from seeking necessary care. The causes of suicide are complex, but early detection and intervention are understood to improve outcomes and general quality of life for individuals struggling with mental health.

Effective Date:

N/A.

G. Relevant Existing Laws

N/A.

E. Prior Session (Previous Bill Numbers & House/Senate Votes)

2023-24 Legislative Session

- [HR 193, PN 1940](#) (O'Mara)
 - Recognizes the month of September 2023 as "Suicide Prevention Awareness Month" and September 10, 2023, as "World Suicide Prevention Day."
 - Adopted 9/27/2023 (201-1)
- [HR 519, PN 3593](#) (O'Mara)
 - Recognizes the month of September 2024 as "Suicide Prevention Awareness Month" and September 10, 2024, as "World Suicide Prevention Day."
 - Adopted 9/30/2024 (201-1)

This document is a summary of proposed legislation and is prepared only as general information for use by the Democratic Members and Staff of the Pennsylvania House of Representatives. The document does not represent the legislative intent of the Pennsylvania House of Representatives and may not be utilized as such.

THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF PENNSYLVANIA

HOUSE RESOLUTION

No. 604 Session of 2026

INTRODUCED BY O'MARA, BENNINGHOFF, GREINER, GUZMAN, DEASY, VENKAT, McNEILL, HOHENSTEIN, SCOTT, HILL-EVANS, ISAACSON, WAXMAN, CONKLIN, SAPPEY, KHAN, DOUGHERTY, BRENNAN, NEILSON, RIVERA, MALAGARI, MADDEN, D. WILLIAMS, GALLAGHER, COOPER, SANCHEZ, BOYD, HARKINS, T. DAVIS, CAUSER, FRANKEL, PUGH, SCHWEYER, STEHR, VEROBISH, MOUL, COOK, HANBIDGE, CEPEDA-FREYTIZ, TIBURCIO AND ROWE, AUGUST 28, 2026

REFERRED TO COMMITTEE ON HEALTH, AUGUST 31, 2026

A RESOLUTION

1 Recognizing the month of September 2026 as "Suicide Prevention
2 Awareness Month" and September 10, 2026, as "World Suicide
3 Prevention Day" in Pennsylvania.

4 WHEREAS, More than 720,000 people around the world die by
5 suicide each year; and

6 WHEREAS, The Centers for Disease Control and Prevention
7 estimates that there were 2.2 million suicide attempts and 14.3
8 million individuals that seriously thought about suicide in the
9 United States in 2024; and

10 WHEREAS, After reaching its peak of 14.2 per 100,000
11 individuals in both 2018 and 2020, suicide rates are fortunately
12 on the decline; and

13 WHEREAS, According to the Centers for Disease Control and
14 Prevention, suicide accounted for nearly 49,000 deaths in 2024,
15 which is 1 death every 11 minutes; and

16 WHEREAS, Suicide is the tenth-leading cause of death in the

1 United States and the second-leading cause of death for those 10
2 to 14 years of age; and

3 WHEREAS, Stigma surrounding mental health and suicide
4 prevents many individuals who are contemplating suicide from
5 seeking and receiving appropriate treatment; therefore be it

6 RESOLVED, That the House of Representatives recognize the
7 month of September 2026 as "Suicide Prevention Awareness Month"
8 and September 10, 2026, as "World Suicide Prevention Day" in
9 Pennsylvania; and be it further

10 RESOLVED, That the House of Representatives encourage the
11 residents of this Commonwealth to provide support for those in
12 need.

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

DEMOCRATIC COMMITTEE BILL ANALYSIS

Bill No:	HR0605 PN3850	Prepared By:	Lillie Simmons
Committee:	Health		(717) 705-1875
Sponsor:	Brennan, Timothy	Executive Director:	Erika Fricke
Date:	9/8/2026		

A. Brief Concept

Recognizes the month of September 2026 as "Chiari Malformation Awareness Month."

C. Analysis of the Bill

Chiari malformations often occur when the skull does not form properly, causing crowding of nerve tissues that push the cerebellum into the spinal canal, blocking the flow of cerebrospinal fluid. Conditions associated with Chiari malformation include spina bifida, hydrocephalus, idiopathic intracranial hypertension and tethered cord syndrome. There are four recognized types of Chiari malformations with distinct symptoms, and two additional types are currently being investigated.

These malformations affect one out of 1,000 people and are typically congenital but can develop after birth as a result of a brain mass, traumatic injury, or infection. Chiari malformations can be diagnosed using magnetic resonance imaging or computed tomography technology. Early diagnosis of Chiari malformations can help improve the individual's quality of life. Though there is no cure for Chiari malformations, surgeries may relieve symptoms depending on the type and severity of the malformation. Of adults who have undergone surgery in response to a Chiari malformation, 80% have reported improvement in their symptoms.

Effective Date:

N/A.

G. Relevant Existing Laws

N/A.

E. Prior Session (Previous Bill Numbers & House/Senate Votes)

N/A.

This document is a summary of proposed legislation and is prepared only as general information for use by the Democratic Members and Staff of the Pennsylvania House of Representatives. The document does not represent the legislative intent of the Pennsylvania House of Representatives and may not be utilized as such.

THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF PENNSYLVANIA

HOUSE RESOLUTION

No. 605 Session of
2026

INTRODUCED BY BRENNAN, RIVERA, VENKAT AND DOUGHERTY,
AUGUST 31, 2026

REFERRED TO COMMITTEE ON HEALTH, AUGUST 31, 2026

A RESOLUTION

1 Recognizing the month of September 2026 as "Chiari Malformation
2 Awareness Month" in Pennsylvania.

3 WHEREAS, Chiari malformations can occur when part of the
4 skull does not form properly, causing nerve tissues to become
5 crowded, pushing part of the cerebellum down and obstructing the
6 flow of cerebrospinal fluid into the spinal canal; and

7 WHEREAS, There are currently four recognized, distinct types
8 of Chiari malformations, each with varying symptoms; and

9 WHEREAS, Doctors and scientists are also investigating two
10 additional types of Chiari malformations; and

11 WHEREAS, Differentiation between each type occurs based on
12 the presence of developmental abnormalities and the type of
13 brain tissue that is compressed into the spinal canal; and

14 WHEREAS, Chiari malformations are typically congenital, but
15 may develop after birth or as the result of a mass in the brain
16 or due to a traumatic injury or infection; and

17 WHEREAS, These malformations may be diagnosed using magnetic
18 resonance imaging or computed tomography technology; and

1 WHEREAS, Conditions that are often associated with Chiari
2 malformation include spina bifida, hydrocephalus, idiopathic
3 intracranial hypertension and tethered cord syndrome; and

4 WHEREAS, Syringomyelia and Ehlers-Danlos Syndrome may also
5 co-occur with Chiari malformations; and

6 WHEREAS, With syringomyelia, a syrinx, or cavity, forms in
7 the spinal cord and can expand over time, eventually damaging
8 the middle of the spinal cord in severe cases; and

9 WHEREAS, Syringomyelia can develop without a Chiari
10 malformation, but many syringomyelia cases are related to
11 congenital Chiari malformations; and

12 WHEREAS, Ehlers-Danlos Syndrome affects the body's connective
13 tissue and can include symptoms such as hypermobility and tissue
14 fragility; and

15 WHEREAS, On average, symptoms related to co-occurring Chiari
16 malformations and Ehlers-Danlos Syndrome begin earlier than
17 symptoms affecting the wider population of individuals who have
18 a Chiari malformation; and

19 WHEREAS, Management of both a Chiari malformation and Ehlers-
20 Danlos Syndrome can be complex due to instability of the head
21 and neck region, further impacted by the increased risk of
22 cerebrospinal fluid leaks for these individuals; and

23 WHEREAS, Among individuals who have a Chiari malformation,
24 co-occurring Ehlers-Danlos Syndrome may negatively impact their
25 surgical outcomes, cause unusual symptoms and necessitate
26 adjusted treatment plans; and

27 WHEREAS, Early diagnosis of Chiari malformations and access
28 to treatment can help with symptom management and improve the
29 individual's quality of life; and

30 WHEREAS, While there is no cure for Chiari malformations,

1 depending on the type and severity of the Chiari malformation,
2 surgeries, including posterior fossa decompression or spinal
3 laminectomy, may relieve symptoms; and

4 WHEREAS, Estimates show that approximately 80% of adults who
5 have a Chiari malformation and pursued surgery reported an
6 improvement in their symptoms; and

7 WHEREAS, Chiari malformations are estimated to impact about
8 1 out of every 1,000 individuals; and

9 WHEREAS, "Chiari Malformation Awareness Month" is recognized
10 every September to increase awareness of the condition and to
11 educate patients and their communities; and

12 WHEREAS, In recognizing "Chiari Malformation Awareness
13 Month," the House of Representatives brings awareness to Chiari
14 malformations and available treatment options; therefore be it

15 RESOLVED, That the House of Representatives recognize the
16 month of September 2026 as "Chiari Malformation Awareness Month"
17 in Pennsylvania.

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

DEMOCRATIC COMMITTEE BILL ANALYSIS

Bill No:	HR0616 PN3877	Prepared By:	Lillie Simmons (717) 705-1875
Committee:	Health	Executive Director:	Erika Fricke
Sponsor:	Marcell, Kristin		
Date:	9/14/2026		

A. Brief Concept

Recognizes the month of September 2026 as "Ovarian Cancer Awareness Month."

C. Analysis of the Bill

Ovarian cancer occurs when abnormal cells in the ovaries, fallopian tubes, or peritoneum grow and spread uncontrollably. The disease is the sixth leading cause of cancer deaths for women in the United States, with around 80% of ovarian cancers being detected during a later stage. Ovarian cancer is difficult to detect as it causes vague symptoms such as bloating, abdominal pain, weight change, and changes in appetite. Increased risk factors for developing the disease include aging, a family or personal history of ovarian or breast cancer, and a personal history of endometriosis.

94% of ovarian cancer patients diagnosed early live longer than five years after diagnosis. Though the rate of ovarian cancer deaths has declined in part due to improved treatment, an estimated 12,450 people will have died from ovarian cancer during 2026. Greater awareness of ovarian cancer and its symptoms can help those with the disease receive an earlier diagnosis, improving health outcomes.

Effective Date:

N/A.

G. Relevant Existing Laws

N/A.

E. Prior Session (Previous Bill Numbers & House/Senate Votes)

2023-24 Legislative Session

- [HR 218, PN 2027](#) (Hogan)
 - Recognizes the month of September 2023 as "Ovarian Cancer Awareness Month."
 - Adopted 10/16/2023 (201-1).

This document is a summary of proposed legislation and is prepared only as general information for use by the Democratic Members and Staff of the Pennsylvania House of Representatives. The document does not represent the legislative intent of the Pennsylvania House of Representatives and may not be utilized as such.

THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF PENNSYLVANIA

HOUSE RESOLUTION

No. 616 Session of
2026

INTRODUCED BY MARCELL, HOGAN, STAATS, PICKETT, RIVERA, ISAACSON,
DEASY, BRENNAN, McNEILL, HOHENSTEIN, ROWE, COOPER AND
KAUFFMAN, SEPTEMBER 9, 2026

REFERRED TO COMMITTEE ON HEALTH, SEPTEMBER 14, 2026

A RESOLUTION

1 Recognizing the month of September 2026 as "Ovarian Cancer
2 Awareness Month" in Pennsylvania.

3 WHEREAS, Ovarian cancer, which occurs when abnormal cells in
4 a woman's ovaries, fallopian tubes or the related peritoneum
5 grow out of control and spread, is the sixth leading cause of
6 cancer deaths for women in the United States; and

7 WHEREAS, There are more than 30 types of ovarian cancer, with
8 epithelial ovarian cancers being the most common; and

9 WHEREAS, A woman's risk of developing ovarian cancer during
10 her lifetime is approximately 1 in 91; and

11 WHEREAS, A woman's chance of dying from ovarian cancer is
12 approximately 1 in 143; and

13 WHEREAS, Increased risk factors for developing ovarian cancer
14 include aging, obesity, a family history of ovarian or breast
15 cancer, inherited gene mutations and a personal history of
16 endometriosis or breast, uterine or colorectal cancer; and

17 WHEREAS, About half of all women diagnosed with ovarian

cancer are 63 years of age or older; and

WHEREAS, In 2026, the American Cancer Society estimates approximately 21,010 women will receive a new diagnosis of ovarian cancer, and approximately 12,450 women will die from ovarian cancer; and

WHEREAS, The rate of ovarian cancer deaths has decreased by 45% since 1976, reflecting both decreased incidence and improved treatment; and

WHEREAS, When detected early, 94% of ovarian cancer patients live longer than five years after diagnosis; and

WHEREAS, An estimated 20% of ovarian cancers are detected at an early stage; and

WHEREAS, Symptoms of ovarian cancer are often vague and include bloating, pelvic or abdominal pain, changes in appetite, frequent urination, gastrointestinal issues and unexplained changes in weight; and

WHEREAS, The American Cancer Society recommends that women discuss potential ovarian cancer symptoms with their doctors; and

WHEREAS, Raising awareness of ovarian cancer is critically important in achieving earlier diagnoses; and

WHEREAS, September is the official "Ovarian Cancer Awareness Month," a time to spread awareness about ovarian cancer risk and prevention and to garner support for continued scientific research; therefore be it

RESOLVED, That the House of Representatives recognize September 2026 as "Ovarian Cancer Awareness Month" in Pennsylvania.

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

DEMOCRATIC COMMITTEE BILL ANALYSIS

Bill No:	HR0625 PN3900	Prepared By:	Lillie Simmons (717) 705-1875
Committee:	Health	Executive Director:	Erika Fricke
Sponsor:	Boyd, Heather		
Date:	9/18/2026		

A. Brief Concept

Designates October 6, 2026, as "World Cerebral Palsy Day."

C. Analysis of the Bill

Cerebral palsy is a group of diseases affecting the person's ability to move and maintain balance and posture. Symptoms of cerebral palsy vary, but can include stiff muscles, lack of coordination, tremors, and difficulty with fine motors skills and walking. The condition is caused by abnormal brain development or damage to the brain prior to birth and is typically diagnosed during the first or second year of a child's life. Cerebral palsy is more common in males than females and more common among black children than white children.

Around 1 in 345 people in the United States have cerebral palsy, and it is the most common movement disability among children. Though there is no cure for cerebral palsy, medications, treatments, surgery, and early intervention can result in improved motor and communication skills. Many people with cerebral palsy can live active, healthy lifestyles with the proper support and services.

Effective Date:

N/A.

G. Relevant Existing Laws

N/A.

E. Prior Session (Previous Bill Numbers & House/Senate Votes)

2023-24 Legislative Session

- [HR 200, PN 1976](#) (Boyd)
 - Recognizes October 6, 2023, as "World Cerebral Palsy Day."
 - Adopted 10/4/2023 (202-1)

This document is a summary of proposed legislation and is prepared only as general information for use by the Democratic Members and Staff of the Pennsylvania House of Representatives. The document does not represent the legislative intent of the Pennsylvania House of Representatives and may not be utilized as such.

THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF PENNSYLVANIA

HOUSE RESOLUTION

No. 625 Session of
2026

INTRODUCED BY BOYD, REICHARD, McNEILL, VENKAT, SHUSTERMAN, HILL-
EVANS, HOHENSTEIN, DEASY, GUZMAN, DUKES, CEPEDA-FREYTIZ,
NEILSON AND GALLAGHER, SEPTEMBER 21, 2026

REFERRED TO COMMITTEE ON HEALTH, SEPTEMBER 22, 2026

A RESOLUTION

1 Recognizing October 6, 2026, as "World Cerebral Palsy Day" in
2 Pennsylvania.

3 WHEREAS, Cerebral palsy is defined as a group of disorders
4 that affect a person's ability to move and maintain balance and
5 posture; and

6 WHEREAS, Cerebral palsy is caused by abnormal brain
7 development or damage to a developing brain before birth; and

8 WHEREAS, Gene mutations, maternal infections, fetal stroke,
9 bleeding into the brain, infant infections, traumatic head
10 injury and lack of oxygen can lead to problems with brain
11 development; and

12 WHEREAS, Cerebral palsy is the most common movement
13 disability in children; and

14 WHEREAS, Roughly 1 in 345 people in the United States have
15 cerebral palsy; and

16 WHEREAS, Cerebral palsy is found to be more common in males
17 than females, and more common among black children than white

1 children; and

2 WHEREAS, Cerebral palsy is usually diagnosed during a child's
3 first or second year of life; and

4 WHEREAS, The sooner a child is diagnosed with cerebral palsy
5 and early interventions are put in place, the better their
6 movement and cognitive outcomes are; and

7 WHEREAS, Symptoms of cerebral palsy can vary from person to
8 person; and

9 WHEREAS, Signs and symptoms of cerebral palsy include stiff
10 muscles, lack of balance and coordination, tremors, difficulty
11 walking and difficulty with fine motor skills; and

12 WHEREAS, There are four main types of cerebral palsy,
13 including spastic cerebral palsy, dyskinetic cerebral palsy,
14 ataxic cerebral palsy and mixed types of cerebral palsy; and

15 WHEREAS, Spastic cerebral palsy is the most common type and
16 causes a person to have stiff muscles and awkward movements; and

17 WHEREAS, Dyskinetic cerebral palsy causes a person to have
18 slow and uncontrollable jerking movements of the feet, arms,
19 hands and legs; and

20 WHEREAS, Ataxic cerebral palsy causes a person to have
21 difficulty with balance and depth perception; and

22 WHEREAS, Mixed cerebral palsy relates to a person having
23 symptoms that do not fall under a specific category of cerebral
24 palsy but are rather a mixture of the different types of
25 cerebral palsy; and

26 WHEREAS, People with cerebral palsy can also have co-
27 occurring conditions which are additional conditions or
28 disorders along with cerebral palsy; and

29 WHEREAS, As of 2026, there is no known cure for cerebral
30 palsy, however, medications, treatments and surgery can help

1 those with cerebral palsy improve their motor and communication
2 skills; and

3 WHEREAS, The average lifetime costs of caring for an
4 individual with cerebral palsy is \$1.6 million, in addition to
5 normal living expenses; and

6 WHEREAS, The hope for a cure for cerebral palsy begins with
7 attaining a better understanding of the disorder; and

8 WHEREAS, The current research being done regarding cerebral
9 palsy is to explore ways of reducing symptoms and limiting brain
10 damage; and

11 WHEREAS, With support and services, adults and children with
12 cerebral palsy can live healthy and active lifestyles and be
13 engaged members of the community; therefore be it

14 RESOLVED, That the House of Representatives recognize October
15 6, 2026, as "World Cerebral Palsy Day" in Pennsylvania.