



SPONSOR: Rep. Osienski on behalf of all Representatives &  
Sen. Walsh on behalf of all Senators

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES  
152nd GENERAL ASSEMBLY

HOUSE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION NO. 73

RECOGNIZING JUNE 25TH-JULY 1ST, 2023 AS "DEAFBLIND AWARENESS WEEK"

1 WHEREAS, this week marks the 39<sup>th</sup> anniversary of recognizing this week as "Deafblind Awareness Week" that  
2 was established in 1984; and

3 WHEREAS, President Reagan in a proclamation in 1984 first designated this last week of June as "Helen Keller  
4 DeafBlind Awareness Week"; and

5 WHEREAS, according to National Deaf National Center on Deaf-Blindness, the rare condition of deaf-blindness  
6 is when an individual has a combined loss of hearing and vision, limiting their auditory and visual information

7 WHEREAS, this week celebrates Helen Keller's birthday on June 27<sup>th</sup> and is observed each year in the last week  
8 of June; and

9 WHEREAS, Helen Keller is recognized as pioneering figure in the lives of deafblind people receiving the  
10 Presidential Medal of Freedom in 1964 due to her many accomplishments including her work to have braille adopted as the  
11 official language for those that are blind, becoming the first deafblind person to write a book and learn five different  
12 languages; and

13 WHEREAS, this week was established to recognize all the success and achievements of those who are deafblind;  
14 and

15 WHEREAS, at least 15 million people worldwide are believed to be living with severe deaf blindness.

16 NOW, THEREFORE:

17 BE IT RESOLVED by the House of Representatives of the 152nd General Assembly of the State of Delaware, the  
18 Senate concurring therein, that June 25<sup>th</sup>-July 1<sup>st</sup>, 2023 be recognized as "Deafblind Awareness Week."

SYNOPSIS

"This resolution recognizes the week of June 25th-July 1st, 2023 as "Deafblind Awareness Week."