
THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF PENNSYLVANIA

HOUSE RESOLUTION

No. 525 Session of
2017

INTRODUCED BY DELOZIER, RADER, CORBIN, BIZZARRO, BOBACK,
R. BROWN, V. BROWN, BULLOCK, BURNS, CALTAGIRONE, CHARLTON,
D. COSTA, SCHLEGEL CULVER, DAVIS, DAY, DIGIROLAMO, DRISCOLL,
DUSH, FRANKEL, GOODMAN, GROVE, HENNESSEY, PHILLIPS-HILL,
HILL-EVANS, JOZWIAK, KAVULICH, M. K. KELLER, KINSEY,
LONGIETTI, MACKENZIE, MARSICO, MATZIE, MENTZER, MILLARD,
B. MILLER, MURT, NEILSON, NELSON, O'NEILL, PASHINSKI, PETRI,
READSHAW, ROE, ROEBUCK, ROTHMAN, ROZZI, SAINATO, SAYLOR,
SCHLOSSBERG, SCHWEYER, SIMS, SOLOMON, SONNEY, STAATS,
STEPHENS, THOMAS, WARD, WATSON, WHEELAND AND DAWKINS,
SEPTEMBER 27, 2017

INTRODUCED AS NONCONTROVERSIAL RESOLUTION UNDER RULE 35,
SEPTEMBER 27, 2017

A RESOLUTION

1 Recognizing the month of October 2017 as "Domestic Violence
2 Awareness Month" in Pennsylvania.

3 WHEREAS, Domestic violence is a pattern of abusive behavior
4 used to establish power and control over an intimate partner;
5 and

6 WHEREAS, Domestic violence often causes emotional harm to
7 victims, their children, other family members, friends,
8 neighbors and coworkers; and

9 WHEREAS, Domestic violence affects men and women from all
10 racial, ethnic, religious, educational, social and economic
11 backgrounds; and

12 WHEREAS, Domestic violence takes many forms, whereby victims
13 are often subjected to abuse, harassment, threats, vandalism,

1 trespassing, burglary, theft and stalking; and

2 WHEREAS, Domestic violence often escalates, causing victims
3 to suffer physical and emotional trauma, anxiety, stress, sleep
4 deprivation, loss of confidence, fear and in some cases, injury
5 and death by suicide or homicide; and

6 WHEREAS, Domestic violence is one of the most chronically
7 underreported crimes; and

8 WHEREAS, There are many barriers to detecting domestic
9 violence; and

10 WHEREAS, In his or her lifetime, one in four women and one in
11 nine men will experience domestic violence; and

12 WHEREAS, An attempted or completed rape is experienced by one
13 in six women and one in thirty-three men; and

14 WHEREAS, Approximately 1.3 million women and 835,000 men are
15 physically assaulted by an intimate partner annually in the
16 United States; and

17 WHEREAS, Perpetrators of intimate partner violence also abuse
18 children in the home 30% to 60% of the time; and

19 WHEREAS, Intimate partner violence results in more than 18.5
20 million mental health care visits each year; and

21 WHEREAS, The cost of intimate partner violence exceeds \$5.8
22 billion each year, \$4.1 billion of which is for direct medical
23 and mental health services; and

24 WHEREAS, Less than 20% of victims who report an injury from
25 intimate partner violence seek medical treatment following the
26 injury; and

27 WHEREAS, Children who witness domestic violence in their
28 homes are 74% more likely to commit criminal assaults as adults;
29 and

30 WHEREAS, Collectively, victims of domestic violence lose

1 almost 8 million days of paid work annually as a result of the
2 violence; and

3 WHEREAS, Each year, businesses forfeit approximately \$100
4 million in lost wages, sick leave, absenteeism and
5 nonproductivity; and

6 WHEREAS, An estimated 20% of those who experience intimate
7 partner violence obtain protection from abuse orders; and

8 WHEREAS, Each year, domestic violence programs in this
9 Commonwealth provide services to approximately 95,000 victims of
10 domestic violence; and

11 WHEREAS, To increase victims' safety, authorities must
12 carefully follow screening, reporting, documentation and
13 referral requirements; and

14 WHEREAS, At-risk individuals and families need education
15 relating to their legal rights, judicial proceedings, advocacy,
16 counseling and support services, shelter care and crisis
17 intervention; therefore be it

18 RESOLVED, That the House of Representatives recognize the
19 month of October 2017 as "Domestic Violence Awareness Month" in
20 Pennsylvania.