
THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF PENNSYLVANIA

HOUSE RESOLUTION

No. 1035 Session of
2014

INTRODUCED BY DELOZIER, MARSICO, CALTAGIRONE, BARRAR, BIZZARRO, BOBACK, B. BOYLE, K. BOYLE, BROOKS, V. BROWN, BROWNLIE, CAUSER, CLAY, CLYMER, COHEN, D. COSTA, SCHLEGEL CULVER, CUTLER, P. DALEY, DAVIDSON, DAVIS, DIGIROLAMO, DONATUCCI, EVERETT, FARINA, FRANKEL, FREEMAN, GIBBONS, GINGRICH, GOODMAN, GRELL, HAHN, HARHAI, C. HARRIS, HEFFLEY, HELM, HENNESSEY, HICKERNELL, KAVULICH, KILLION, KINSEY, KIRKLAND, LONGIETTI, LUCAS, MACKENZIE, MAHONEY, MAJOR, MARSHALL, MATZIE, BAKER, MCGEEHAN, MCNEILL, MICOZZIE, MILLARD, MIRABITO, MURT, MUSTIO, O'BRIEN, PARKER, PICKETT, READSHAW, REED, REGAN, ROCK, ROSS, ROZZI, SABATINA, SAINATO, SANTARSIERO, SAYLOR, SCHLOSSBERG, SONNEY, STEPHENS, SWANGER, THOMAS, TOEPEL, TURZAI, VEREB, WATSON, WHITE, YOUNGBLOOD AND GROVE, SEPTEMBER 22, 2014

INTRODUCED AS NONCONTROVERSIAL RESOLUTION UNDER RULE 35,
SEPTEMBER 22, 2014

A RESOLUTION

1 Recognizing the month of October 2014 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 in all
10 racial, ethnic, religious, educational, social and economic
11 backgrounds; and

1 WHEREAS, Domestic violence takes many forms, whereby victims
2 are often subjected to abuse, harassment, threats, vandalism,
3 trespassing, burglary, theft and stalking; and

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

8 WHEREAS, Domestic violence is one of the most chronically
9 underreported crimes; and

10 WHEREAS, There are many barriers to detecting domestic
11 violence; and

12 WHEREAS, One in every four women and one in every nine men
13 will experience domestic violence in his or her lifetime; and

14 WHEREAS, One in six women and one in 33 men have experienced
15 an attempted or completed rape; and

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

19 WHEREAS, Thirty to sixty percent of perpetrators of intimate
20 partner violence also abuse children in the home; and

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

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

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

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

1 and

2 WHEREAS, Victims of domestic violence lose almost 8 million
3 days of paid work annually as a result of the violence; and

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

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

8 WHEREAS, Each year, domestic violence programs in
9 Pennsylvania 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 victim
15 education relating to their legal rights, judicial proceedings,
16 advocacy, counseling and support services, shelter care and
17 crisis intervention; therefore be it

18 RESOLVED, That the House of Representatives recognize the
19 month of October 2014 as "Domestic Violence Awareness Month" in
20 Pennsylvania.