
THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF PENNSYLVANIA

HOUSE RESOLUTION

No. 661 Session of
2018

INTRODUCED BY VAZQUEZ, SCHWEYER, SCHLOSSBERG, READSHAW, JAMES,
KINSEY, MILLARD, DAVIS, NEILSON, BOBACK, DiGIROLAMO, WARREN,
HILL-EVANS, J. McNEILL, MURT AND DONATUCCI, JANUARY 25, 2018

REFERRED TO COMMITTEE ON HUMAN SERVICES, JANUARY 25, 2018

A RESOLUTION

1 Recognizing The CTC Wellness Foundation for forming Don't Stall,
2 Just Call, an alcohol poisoning education program, which
3 raises student and family awareness of the dangers of binge
4 drinking and informs them of this Commonwealth's medical
5 amnesty law.

6 WHEREAS, The CTC Wellness Foundation formed and promotes the
7 Don't Stall, Just Call program, which educates students of all
8 ages and their families regarding the effects of alcohol on the
9 body, the signs and symptoms of alcohol poisoning, the need to
10 seek immediate medical intervention when necessary and
11 Pennsylvania's medical amnesty law; and

12 WHEREAS, The Don't Stall, Just Call program was created by
13 the mother of a student at Temple University whose tragic,
14 untimely death in 2015 resulted from excessive drinking; and

15 WHEREAS, Commonly referred to as "binge" drinking, the
16 excessive consumption of alcohol is a serious problem on college
17 campuses across the country, as the National Institute on
18 Alcohol Abuse and Alcoholism of the National Institutes of
19 Health (NIH) reports that approximately 1,825 college students

1 between 18 and 24 years of age die each year from alcohol-
2 related injuries; and

3 WHEREAS, According to the 2014 National Survey on Drug Use
4 and Health, nearly 60% of college students 18 to 22 years of age
5 drank alcohol within the past month, and nearly two out of three
6 college students engaged in binge drinking during that same time
7 frame; and

8 WHEREAS, NIH defines binge drinking as a pattern of drinking
9 that brings blood alcohol concentration levels to 0.08 g/dL,
10 which typically occurs in approximately two hours when either a
11 woman has consumed four drinks or a man has consumed five
12 drinks; and

13 WHEREAS, Binge drinking can lead to serious health
14 consequences, including alcohol poisoning, which can lead to
15 permanent brain damage or death; and

16 WHEREAS, The signs and symptoms of alcohol poisoning include
17 mental confusion, slow or irregular breathing, hypothermia or
18 low body temperature, bluish or pale skin, stupor, vomiting and
19 unresponsiveness; and

20 WHEREAS, NIH reports that thousands of college students are
21 transported to the emergency room each year for alcohol
22 poisoning, which occurs when high levels of alcohol suppress the
23 nervous and respiratory systems and the body struggles to rid
24 itself of toxins produced from the breakdown of alcohol; and

25 WHEREAS, College students who are binge drinking often suffer
26 and may possibly die because their peers fear the potential
27 consequences of calling for emergency medical assistance; and

28 WHEREAS, Senseless deaths can be prevented when students
29 recognize the signs and symptoms of alcohol poisoning and choose
30 to make the call; and

1 WHEREAS, Pennsylvania has a medical amnesty law that provides
2 immunity from punishment for a person who calls either 911,
3 campus security, police or an emergency officer for emergency
4 assistance to report that an underage drinker is in need of
5 immediate medical attention to prevent serious injury or perhaps
6 death; and

7 WHEREAS, The Don't Stall, Just Call program mission includes
8 educating students about the signs and symptoms of alcohol
9 poisoning and offering resources and recommendations on how to
10 properly handle excessive drinking incidents; and

11 WHEREAS, The Don't Stall, Just Call program serves to educate
12 students regarding their protection under this Commonwealth's
13 medical amnesty law when they call for emergency assistance; and

14 WHEREAS, The Don't Stall, Just Call program has helped to
15 save lives, as the program's alcohol awareness presentations
16 have reached thousands of people, including those from
17 universities, high schools, private businesses and church
18 groups; therefore be it

19 RESOLVED, That the House of Representatives recognize The CTC
20 Wellness Foundation for its invaluable work in raising student
21 and family awareness through the Don't Stall, Just Call alcohol
22 poisoning education program regarding the dangers of binge
23 drinking, as well as informing them of this Commonwealth's
24 medical amnesty law.