
THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF PENNSYLVANIA

HOUSE RESOLUTION

No. 803 Session of
2015

INTRODUCED BY DEAN, READSHAW, COHEN, DIGIROLAMO, NEUMAN, DUSH,
SONNEY, WHEELAND, R. BROWN, FARINA, BAKER, STURLA, DAVIS,
SCHLOSSBERG, SCHREIBER, MACKENZIE, D. COSTA, ROZZI, KIRKLAND,
LONGIETTI, BOBACK, MARSICO, ACOSTA, HENNESSEY, VITALI, MURT,
V. BROWN, MILLARD, HELM, MILNE, McNEILL, MAHONEY, DeLUCA,
MUSTIO, PHILLIPS-HILL, O'BRIEN, WATSON, W. KELLER, ROSS,
TOEPEL, KINSEY, EVERETT AND MAJOR, APRIL 11, 2016

INTRODUCED AS NONCONTROVERSIAL RESOLUTION UNDER RULE 35,
APRIL 11, 2016

A RESOLUTION

1 Recognizing April 30, 2016, as "National Prescription Drug Take-
2 Back Day" in Pennsylvania.

3 WHEREAS, On April 30, 2016, from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m., the
4 United States Drug Enforcement Administration (DEA) will provide
5 the public with a free and anonymous opportunity to safely rid
6 their homes of potentially dangerous expired, unused and
7 unwanted prescription drugs; and

8 WHEREAS, The DEA, along with local agencies, began holding
9 "National Prescription Drug Take-Back Day" in 2010, and it has
10 proven so successful that it has grown into a semiannual event;
11 and

12 WHEREAS, During the most recent "National Prescription Drug
13 Take-Back Day" held in September 2015, Americans turned in 350
14 tons of prescription drugs at more than 5,000 sites operated by
15 the DEA and more than 3,800 of its state and local law

1 enforcement partners; and

2 WHEREAS, Since the inaugural "National Prescription Drug
3 Take-Back Day" in 2010, the DEA and its partners have collected
4 more than 5.5 million pounds of prescription drugs or
5 approximately 2,750 tons of pills; and

6 WHEREAS, This initiative addresses a vital public safety and
7 public health issue; and

8 WHEREAS, Unwanted, unused or expired medications that
9 languish in home medicine cabinets or medications that are not
10 disposed of properly are highly susceptible to diversion, misuse
11 and abuse; and

12 WHEREAS, Rates of prescription drug abuse in the United
13 States are alarmingly high, as are the number of accidental
14 poisonings and overdoses due to these drugs; and

15 WHEREAS, According to the American Society of Addiction
16 Medicine (ASAM), four out of five new heroin users started out
17 misusing prescription medications; and

18 WHEREAS, ASAM reports that as a result, the rate of heroin
19 overdose deaths nearly quadrupled from 2000 to 2013; and

20 WHEREAS, According to the DEA, a majority of abused
21 prescription drugs are obtained from family and friends,
22 including from the home medicine cabinet; therefore be it

23 RESOLVED, That the House of Representatives recognize April
24 30, 2016, as "National Prescription Drug Take-Back Day" in
25 Pennsylvania.