
THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF PENNSYLVANIA

HOUSE RESOLUTION

No. 901 Session of
2015

INTRODUCED BY MCCLINTON, TOOHIL, BULLOCK, HENNESSEY, COHEN,
MURT, CORBIN, LONGIETTI, COOK-ARTIS, WARD, THOMAS, READSHAW,
KIRKLAND, ROZZI, SCHLEGEL CULVER, WHEELAND, CALTAGIRONE,
BOBACK, TAYLOR, PASHINSKI, GIBBONS, ROSS, MILLARD, J. HARRIS,
RAPP, BIZZARRO, MARSICO, PHILLIPS-HILL, D. COSTA, GROVE,
NEILSON, CRUZ, MAHONEY, YOUNGBLOOD AND O'BRIEN, MAY 19, 2016

INTRODUCED AS NONCONTROVERSIAL RESOLUTION UNDER RULE 35,
MAY 19, 2016

A RESOLUTION

1 Recognizing the month of May 2016 as "National Drug Court Month"
2 in Pennsylvania.

3 WHEREAS, "Criminal Justice Reform in Action" is the theme of
4 the 2016 "National Drug Court Month" observance; and

5 WHEREAS, The expansion of drug courts has been a key reform
6 in the fight against drug abuse and criminality in many
7 jurisdictions; and

8 WHEREAS, Underlying chronic behaviors are the focus of these
9 specialized courts; and

10 WHEREAS, Judges work with a community team to develop a case
11 plan that includes regular court appearances, treatment
12 sessions, monitoring of an offender's compliance and aftercare;
13 and

14 WHEREAS, Volunteer mentors may provide additional support for
15 court-involved individuals; and

1 WHEREAS, Graduated sanctions, incentives, evidence-based
2 treatment, education and training benefits and related services
3 are applied as needed; and

4 WHEREAS, "National Drug Court Month" highlights the
5 collective impact of adult drug courts, juvenile drug courts,
6 family dependency treatment courts, tribal healing to wellness
7 courts, DWI/DUI courts and veterans treatment courts; and

8 WHEREAS, These courts have effectively reduced drug abuse,
9 crime and recidivism while significantly improving treatment
10 outcomes and saving taxpayer money; and

11 WHEREAS, These courts have facilitated community partnerships
12 to broadly enhance criminal justice, public safety and public
13 health; and

14 WHEREAS, According to the National Institute of Justice, 84%
15 of drug court graduates have not been rearrested or charged with
16 a serious crime in the first year after their graduation; and

17 WHEREAS, According to the Urban Institute, drug courts
18 provide \$2.21 in benefits, and up to \$3.36 in benefits among
19 expanded programs, for every \$1 invested; and

20 WHEREAS, The House of Representatives applauds the commitment
21 and coordination among drug court defendants, judges, case
22 management professionals and volunteers in the pursuit of
23 comprehensive intervention, treatment completion, family
24 reunification and sustained recovery; therefore be it

25 RESOLVED, That the House of Representatives recognize the
26 month of May 2016 as "National Drug Court Month" in
27 Pennsylvania.