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THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF PENNSYLVANIA

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SENATE RESOLUTION

No. 102 Session of  
2023

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INTRODUCED BY TARTAGLIONE, KEARNEY, HUGHES, CAPPELLETTI,  
COMITTA, KANE, FONTANA, MILLER, DILLON, CULVER, HAYWOOD,  
COSTA, BREWSTER AND SCHWANK, APRIL 25, 2023

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REFERRED TO RULES AND EXECUTIVE NOMINATIONS, APRIL 25, 2023

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A RESOLUTION

1 Designating the month of May 2023 as "Trauma Awareness Month"  
2 and May 25, 2023, as "Trauma Awareness Day" in Pennsylvania.

3 WHEREAS, Trauma is the response that an individual has to a  
4 deeply disturbing or stressful event that affects the  
5 individual's ability to recover and impacts the individual  
6 mentally or physically, or both; and

7 WHEREAS, Being trauma-informed recognizes the presence of  
8 trauma, which results from past traumatic experiences, and the  
9 role that trauma plays throughout someone's life; and

10 WHEREAS, On an organizational level, being trauma-informed  
11 changes organizational culture to emphasize respecting and  
12 responding to the effects of trauma at all levels in people's  
13 lives, including experiences or trauma that affects their  
14 identity, relationships with others and their world view; and

15 WHEREAS, Healing in all policies is necessary, but community  
16 healing will only occur when we acknowledge the historical harms  
17 done to individuals; and

1       WHEREAS, The effects of traumatic exposures on humans are  
2 detailed in research over the last two decades from the evolving  
3 sciences of neuroscience, molecular biology, public health,  
4 genomics and epigenetics; and

5       WHEREAS, Research reveals that experiences, such as a  
6 community trauma and individual trauma, result in significant  
7 impacts at the micro, meso and macro health system levels; and

8       WHEREAS, We recognize that all individuals experience trauma,  
9 not only from situations, such as a pandemic, but also from  
10 ongoing social injustice practices; and

11       WHEREAS, The trauma awareness campaign will continue beyond  
12 the month of May and lay the foundational groundwork for more  
13 public/private partnerships in the future; and

14       WHEREAS, May 25 marks a historic chapter in advancing this  
15 Commonwealth and improving the physical, mental and emotional  
16 health of residents of this Commonwealth through trauma  
17 awareness; and

18       WHEREAS, Pennsylvania is a pioneer State in its efforts to  
19 become healing-centered; and

20       WHEREAS, Continued progress toward being healing-centered in  
21 communities, organizations and families and as individuals  
22 requires reform in policies, practices and the current  
23 narrative; and

24       WHEREAS, Successful efforts for the full participation of  
25 every resident of this Commonwealth to become trauma-informed  
26 require the recognition of the vital importance of creating a  
27 foundational unified front in fostering awareness, providing  
28 resources and facilitating healing; and

29       WHEREAS, Pennsylvania stands with the national movement,  
30 #WeHealUS, to continue down our path to support a Statewide

1 trauma coalition through HEAL PA; and

2 WHEREAS, All individuals and leaders must recognize that  
3 trauma exists and has widespread effects, must recognize the  
4 signs and symptoms of trauma and must respond proactively and  
5 resist retraumatization; therefore be it

6 RESOLVED, That the Senate designate the month of May 2023 as  
7 "Trauma Awareness Month" and May 25, 2023, as "Trauma Awareness  
8 Day" in Pennsylvania.