

---

THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF PENNSYLVANIA

---

SENATE RESOLUTION

No. 121 Session of  
2021

---

INTRODUCED BY VOGEL, ARGALL, FONTANA, COMITTA, BARTOLOTTA,  
BROWNE, COLLETT, J. WARD, KANE, HUGHES, MARTIN, SCAVELLO,  
COSTA, MUTH, CAPPELLETTI, PITTMAN, STEFANO, YUDICHAK AND  
MENSCH, MAY 28, 2021

---

REFERRED TO RULES AND EXECUTIVE NOMINATIONS, MAY 28, 2021

---

A RESOLUTION

1 Designating the month of May 2021 as "Mental Health Awareness  
2 Month" in Pennsylvania.

3 WHEREAS, Mental health is critical to the overall well-being  
4 of individuals, families, communities and businesses; and

5 WHEREAS, Mental illnesses are biologically based brain  
6 disorders that cannot be overcome through willpower and are not  
7 related to an individual's character or intelligence; and

8 WHEREAS, Mental health issues can affect individuals of any  
9 race, religion, economic status or age; and

10 WHEREAS, Fifty percent of all lifetime mental illness begins  
11 by 14 years of age and 75% by 24 years of age; and

12 WHEREAS, Individuals with mental illness have the same needs  
13 and are guaranteed the same rights as all Americans; and

14 WHEREAS, Early identification and treatment can make a  
15 difference in successful management of mental illness and  
16 recovery; and

17 WHEREAS, The average delay between onset of mental illness

1 symptoms and treatment is 11 years; and

2 WHEREAS, In 2019, 51.1 million adults in the United States  
3 experienced mental illness; and

4 WHEREAS, In 2016, 7.7 million youth in the United States 6  
5 through 17 years of age experienced a mental health disorder;  
6 and

7 WHEREAS, Proper identification and treatment of mental  
8 illnesses, including support, are proven to be effective and are  
9 vitally important to assist individuals in leading full,  
10 productive lives; therefore be it

11 RESOLVED, That the Senate designate the month of May 2021 as  
12 "Mental Health Awareness Month" in Pennsylvania; and be it  
13 further

14 RESOLVED, That all governmental agencies, public and private  
15 institutions, businesses, schools and residents of this  
16 Commonwealth strive to increase awareness and understanding of  
17 mental illnesses and the need for appropriate and accessible  
18 services for all individuals with a mental illness throughout  
19 the communities in this Commonwealth.