
THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF PENNSYLVANIA

SENATE RESOLUTION

No. 151 Session of
2023

INTRODUCED BY KANE, ROBINSON, TARTAGLIONE, HAYWOOD, KEARNEY,
FONTANA, BREWSTER AND COSTA, AUGUST 25, 2023

REFERRED TO RULES AND EXECUTIVE NOMINATIONS, AUGUST 25, 2023

A RESOLUTION

1 Designating the week of July 23 through 29, 2023, as
2 "Construction Opioid Awareness Week" in Pennsylvania.

3 WHEREAS, Opioids are deadly and are responsible for claiming
4 approximately 600,000 American lives between 1999 and 2021; and

5 WHEREAS, In 2021, drug overdose deaths in the United States
6 reached their highest point ever recorded with more than 106,000
7 deaths according to the Centers for Disease Control and
8 Prevention (CDC); and

9 WHEREAS, Nearly 75%, or 80,411, of overdose deaths in 2022
10 involved an opioid according to the CDC; and

11 WHEREAS, The construction industry, which involves physically
12 demanding labor and employs an aging workforce, has been
13 particularly vulnerable to the opioid epidemic; and

14 WHEREAS, Drug abuse issues in the construction industry
15 endanger not only the individual worker, but the companies they
16 work for, other workers on the jobsite and the general public
17 near jobsites; and

18 WHEREAS, The summer months are the busiest for the

1 construction industry and are an ideal time for promoting
2 awareness of the dangers of opioid abuse; and

3 WHEREAS, Many construction organizations have been utilizing
4 services and resources from the National Safety Council to
5 create an educational toolbox for members of the construction
6 industry, including materials to facilitate discussions with
7 workers about the dangers of opioids and prescription drug
8 abuse, and "Warn Me" stickers to place on workers' insurance
9 cards in the hopes of encouraging health care providers to
10 discuss opioid issues with those workers; and

11 WHEREAS, The following groups plan to promote the awareness
12 and dangers of opioids and prescription drug abuse within the
13 construction industry during the last full week in the month of
14 July:

15 (1) Keystone Contractors Association;

16 (2) National Safety Council;

17 (3) National Utility Contractors Association -
18 Pennsylvania Chapter;

19 (4) Pennsylvania Building and Construction Trades
20 Council;

21 (5) Eastern Atlantic States Regional Council of
22 Carpenters;

23 (6) Laborers International Union of North America -
24 Pennsylvania Council;

25 (7) Sheet Metal and Air Conditioning Contractors
26 National Association - Pennsylvania Chapter;

27 (8) Master Builders' Association of Western
28 Pennsylvania;

29 (9) National Electrical Contractors Association of
30 Western Pennsylvania;

1 (10) Mechanical Contractors Association of America -
2 Pennsylvania Chapters;

3 (11) Pennsylvania Builders Exchange;

4 (12) Architectural Glass and Metal Association;

5 (13) Ironworker Employers Association of Western
6 Pennsylvania;

7 (14) American Subcontractors Association of Central
8 Pennsylvania; and

9 (15) General Building Contractors Association;

10 therefore be it

11 RESOLVED, That the Senate designate the week of July 23
12 through 29, 2023, as "Construction Opioid Awareness Week" in
13 Pennsylvania; and be it further

14 RESOLVED, That the construction industry in Pennsylvania be
15 encouraged to promote awareness of the dangers of opioids and
16 prescription drug abuse with workers in the industry and
17 facilitate discussions and events such as "Drug Take Back"
18 events to combat the opioid and prescription drug abuse epidemic
19 in Pennsylvania's construction industry.