

THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF PENNSYLVANIA

SENATE RESOLUTION

No. 128 Session of
2011

INTRODUCED BY WASHINGTON, KITCHEN, WARD, DINNIMAN, FERLO, ORIE,
RAFFERTY, SOLOBAY, STACK, D. WHITE, PIPPY, ERICKSON, SCHWANK,
GREENLEAF, PILEGGI, EARLL AND FONTANA, MAY 24, 2011

INTRODUCED AND ADOPTED, MAY 24, 2011

A RESOLUTION

1 Recognizing the week of May 21 through 27, 2011, as "Older
2 Americans Mental Health Week" in Pennsylvania.

3 WHEREAS, Mental health disorders, though widespread in the
4 population, are not a normal part of aging; and

5 WHEREAS, Recognition and treatment of mental health disorders
6 is important for healthy aging; and

7 WHEREAS, Persons with a diagnosable mental health disorder
8 must be able to seek help and have access to appropriate
9 treatment; and

10 WHEREAS, A reported one in four older adults in the United
11 States experiences a diagnosable mental health disorder in a
12 given year; and

13 WHEREAS, Clinical depression, which affects 20% of people
14 over 65 years of age, is serious but often treatable; and

15 WHEREAS, Suicide prevention campaigns must address the
16 alarming fact that older adults have the highest suicide rate in
17 our nation; and

1 WHEREAS, The Senate acknowledges the imperative for
2 increasing public awareness of the mental health needs of older
3 adults; and

4 WHEREAS, The Senate urges integrating mental health
5 professionals and appropriate resources in our communities to
6 fully support older adults with mental health disorders and
7 affected caregivers; therefore be it

8 RESOLVED, That the Senate recognize the week of May 21
9 through 27, 2011, as "Older Americans Mental Health Week" in
10 Pennsylvania.