

THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF PENNSYLVANIA

# SENATE RESOLUTION

No. 186 Session of  
2015

INTRODUCED BY TEPLITZ, WOZNIAK, FONTANA, BREWSTER, DINNIMAN,  
SCAVELLO, COSTA, BOSCOLA, AUMENT, RAFFERTY AND HUGHES,  
SEPTEMBER 17, 2015

INTRODUCED AND ADOPTED, SEPTEMBER 17, 2015

## A RESOLUTION

1 Designating September 25, 2015, as "Fairweather Lodge Day" in  
2 Pennsylvania.

3 WHEREAS, The Fairweather Lodge Program was inspired by the  
4 work of Dr. George William "Bill" Fairweather, an innovative  
5 psychologist and humanitarian, as an alternative to  
6 institutional care for the mentally ill; and

7 WHEREAS, Dr. Fairweather's research and his book, *Community*  
8 *Life for the Mentally Ill: An Alternative to Institutional Care*  
9 became a milestone in the treatment of mental illness throughout  
10 the country, resulting in the patients' rights movement in  
11 psychiatry; and

12 WHEREAS, Dr. Fairweather developed the Fairweather Lodge  
13 Program, an innovative social experiment fostering more  
14 participatory roles in society for former psychiatric patients,  
15 through having the patients live and work together on a more  
16 collaborative basis and the program now exists in at least 17  
17 states and encompasses more than 100 lodges; and

1       WHEREAS, Since their creation in 1963, these programs have  
2 helped thousands of individuals, extend throughout 14 different  
3 states and have greatly impacted mental illness treatment all  
4 across the country; and

5       WHEREAS, Numerous counties in this Commonwealth are served by  
6 organizations patterned after the Fairweather Lodge Program,  
7 including the counties of Allegheny, Centre, Clearfield,  
8 Crawford, Cumberland, Dauphin, Erie, Fayette, Franklin, Fulton,  
9 Jefferson, Lawrence, Mercer, Perry, Venango and Westmoreland;  
10 and

11       WHEREAS, The Fairweather Lodge Program will always be  
12 remembered for providing to persons who have a mental illness  
13 condition a sense of dignity and self-worth, by allowing them to  
14 participate in major treatment decisions and providing  
15 individuals with the opportunity to rejoin the community, which  
16 has been shown to help persons recover and heal from their  
17 ailments; therefore be it

18       RESOLVED, That the Senate honor the contributions of the  
19 Fairweather Lodge Program by designating September 25, 2015, as  
20 "Fairweather Lodge Day" in Pennsylvania in recognition of the  
21 work of Dr. George William Fairweather and many others; and be  
22 it further

23       RESOLVED, That a copy of this resolution be transmitted to  
24 New Visions, Inc., P.O. Box 211, Newport, PA 17074.