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THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF PENNSYLVANIA

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HOUSE RESOLUTION

No. 322 Session of  
2001

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INTRODUCED BY VANCE, PERZEL, WASHINGTON, ADOLPH, ALLEN, ARGALL,  
ARMSTRONG, BARD, BARRAR, BEBKO-JONES, BELARDI, BENNINGHOFF,  
BUXTON, CALTAGIRONE, CAPPELLI, CAWLEY, CLARK, L. I. COHEN,  
CORRIGAN, COY, CREIGHTON, DALEY, DeLUCA, DERMODY, DiGIROLAMO,  
DONATUCCI, J. EVANS, FAIRCHILD, FICHTER, FLEAGLE, FRANKEL,  
FREEMAN, GABIG, GEIST, GEORGE, GORDNER, GRUCELA, HARHAI,  
HARHART, HERMAN, HERSHEY, HORSEY, HUTCHINSON, JAMES, JOSEPHS,  
KAISER, KELLER, KENNEY, LAUGHLIN, LEDERER, LEH, LEWIS,  
MACKERETH, MAITLAND, MAJOR, MANDERINO, MANN, McCALL,  
McGEEHAN, McILHATTAN, McNAUGHTON, MELIO, S. MILLER, MUNDY,  
PALLONE, PETRARCA, PIPPY, PISTELLA, READSHAW, ROBERTS, ROSS,  
RUBLEY, SANTONI, SATHER, SAYLOR, SCHRODER, SCHULER, SHANER,  
B. SMITH, SOLOBAY, STABACK, STERN, STURLA, SURRA, TANGRETTI,  
E. Z. TAYLOR, THOMAS, TIGUE, TRAVAGLIO, TRICH, WALKO, WATSON,  
WOJNAROSKI, M. WRIGHT, YOUNGBLOOD, YUDICHAK AND ZUG,  
OCTOBER 15, 2001

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INTRODUCED AS NONCONTROVERSIAL RESOLUTION UNDER RULE 35,  
OCTOBER 15, 2001

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A RESOLUTION

1 Designating the month of October as "Domestic Violence Awareness  
2 Month" in Pennsylvania.

3 WHEREAS, At least 800,000 Pennsylvanians each year are  
4 victims of domestic violence; and

5 WHEREAS, Approximately 1,800 murders nationally are  
6 attributed to domestic violence each year; and

7 WHEREAS, According to statistics of the Federal Bureau of  
8 Investigation, a woman is beaten every 15 seconds; and

9 WHEREAS, Pennsylvania is the first state in the nation to  
10 institute domestic violence universal screening; and

1       WHEREAS, The importance of screening patients for symptoms of  
2 domestic violence was emphasized by this legislature most  
3 recently by the enactment of the act of December 3, 1998  
4 (P.L.925, No.115), known as the Domestic Violence Health Care  
5 Response Act, which establishes the Domestic Violence Health  
6 Care Response Program; and

7       WHEREAS, For the second straight year, the Family Violence  
8 Prevention Fund has designated Pennsylvania as the only State in  
9 the nation to receive an "A" grade in regards to its domestic  
10 violence health care laws; and

11       WHEREAS, According to the Department of Justice, nearly 50%  
12 of all domestic violence acts are witnessed by children; and

13       WHEREAS, Battery is a leading cause of injury to women; and

14       WHEREAS, Studies show that battered women who work face a  
15 high likelihood of losing their jobs because of domestic  
16 violence: 55% missed work and over 60% were late for work; and

17       WHEREAS, All Pennsylvanians should be made aware of the  
18 multitude of symptoms and signs associated with domestic  
19 violence; and

20       WHEREAS, Approximately only 10% of primary care physicians  
21 across the nation routinely screen patients for partner abuse  
22 when not currently injured; therefore be it

23       RESOLVED, That the House of Representatives designate the  
24 month of October 2001 as "Domestic Violence Awareness Month" in  
25 Pennsylvania; and be it further

26       RESOLVED, That the House of Representatives encourage all  
27 Pennsylvanians to learn more about the causes, signs, prevention  
28 and treatment for domestic violence.