## THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF PENNSYLVANIA

## SENATE RESOLUTION

No. 358

Session of 2006

INTRODUCED BY ORIE, ROBBINS, LAVALLE, EARLL, WASHINGTON, C. WILLIAMS, WENGER, BOSCOLA, KASUNIC, STACK, FERLO, WONDERLING, O'PAKE, PUNT, KITCHEN, RAFFERTY, GORDNER, FONTANA, VANCE, BRIGHTBILL, CONTI, LOGAN, COSTA, TARTAGLIONE, MELLOW, WOZNIAK, REGOLA, MUSTO, CORMAN, DINNIMAN, RHOADES, ARMSTRONG, TOMLINSON, ERICKSON, D. WHITE, GREENLEAF, PILEGGI, PICCOLA, PIPPY AND LEMMOND, OCTOBER 3, 2006

INTRODUCED AND ADOPTED, OCTOBER 3, 2006

## A RESOLUTION

- 1 Designating the month of October as "Domestic Violence Awareness 2 Month" in Pennsylvania.
- 3 WHEREAS, Approximately 80,000 Pennsylvanians each year are
- 4 victims of domestic violence; and
- 5 WHEREAS, Approximately 4.8 million intimate partner rapes and
- 6 sexual assaults occur annually in the United States; and
- 7 WHEREAS, Approximately 1,800 murders nationally are
- 8 attributed to domestic violence each year; and
- 9 WHEREAS, According to FBI statistics, a woman is beaten every
- 10 15 seconds; and
- 11 WHEREAS, Pennsylvania is the first state in the nation to
- 12 institute domestic violence universal screening; and
- 13 WHEREAS, The importance of screening patients for symptoms of
- 14 domestic violence was emphasized by this legislature most
- 15 recently by the passage of Act 115 of 1998, which establishes

- 1 the Domestic Violence Health Care Response Program; and
- 2 WHEREAS, The Family Violence Prevention Fund (FVPF) has
- 3 designated Pennsylvania as the only state in the nation to
- 4 receive an "A" grade in regards to its domestic violence health
- 5 care laws; and
- 6 WHEREAS, According to the Department of Justice, nearly 50%
- 7 of all domestic violence acts are witnessed by children; and
- 8 WHEREAS, Battery is a leading cause of injury to women; and
- 9 WHEREAS, Studies show that battered women who work face a
- 10 high likelihood of losing their jobs because of domestic
- 11 violence: 55% missed work and over 60% were late for work; and
- 12 WHEREAS, All Pennsylvanians should be made aware of the
- 13 multitude of symptoms and signs associated with domestic
- 14 violence; and
- 15 WHEREAS, Approximately only 10% of primary care physicians
- 16 across the nation routinely screen patients for partner abuse
- 17 when not currently injured; therefore be it
- 18 RESOLVED, That the Senate designate the month of October 2006
- 19 as "Domestic Violence Awareness Month" in Pennsylvania; and be
- 20 it further
- 21 RESOLVED, That the Senate encourage all Pennsylvanians to
- 22 learn more about the causes, signs, prevention and treatment for
- 23 domestic violence.