

THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF PENNSYLVANIA

HOUSE RESOLUTION

No. 1051 Session of
2015

INTRODUCED BY BULLOCK, DONATUCCI, DIGIROLAMO, YOUNGBLOOD,
HENNESSEY, TOOHIL, COHEN, KINSEY, VEREB, BIZZARRO, SONNEY,
DUSH, REGAN, COOK-ARTIS, MACKENZIE, LONGIETTI, KIRKLAND,
MILLARD, CALTAGIRONE, WARD, WHEATLEY, DAVIS, SCHLOSSBERG,
MAHONEY, READSHAW, O'NEILL, O'BRIEN, V. BROWN, PAYNE,
SCHREIBER, ROSS, GIBBONS, D. COSTA, ROZZI, MAJOR, MARSICO,
D. MILLER, McCARTER, THOMAS AND WATSON, OCTOBER 4, 2016

INTRODUCED AS NONCONTROVERSIAL RESOLUTION UNDER RULE 35,
OCTOBER 4, 2016

A RESOLUTION

1 Recognizing the month of October 2016 as "National Depression
2 Education and Awareness Month" and recognizing the week of
3 October 2 through 8, 2016, as "Mental Health Awareness Week"
4 in Pennsylvania.

5 WHEREAS, Depression is a serious but treatable chronic mental
6 health condition that has been recognized as a leading cause of
7 disability worldwide; and

8 WHEREAS, Approximately 16 million new cases of depression are
9 diagnosed in the United States each year; and

10 WHEREAS, The State prevalence rate for depression is 16.2%;
11 and

12 WHEREAS, Depression-related functional impairment is
13 associated with virtually all major depressive episodes; and

14 WHEREAS, Genetic predisposition and other biological,
15 physical, psychological and environmental factors raise the risk
16 of experiencing depression; and

1 WHEREAS, "National Depression Education and Awareness Month"
2 notes the impact of depression on individuals and communities
3 and affirms the necessity of early recognition and treatment in
4 maintaining quality of life and preventing relapse; and

5 WHEREAS, "National Depression Education and Awareness Month"
6 improves our understanding of available treatment options and
7 recent findings relating to clinical practice guidelines,
8 therapeutic breakthroughs, genetics, lifestyle factors and
9 effective preventive interventions; and

10 WHEREAS, "Mental Health Awareness Week" is observed annually
11 during the first week of October; and

12 WHEREAS, This observance urges greater understanding of
13 mental health and highlights treatment and recovery from even
14 the most severe forms of mental illness while noting existing
15 barriers to treatment and dispelling related stigma; and

16 WHEREAS, The National Alliance on Mental Illness coordinates
17 "Mental Health Awareness Week" events to improve the lives of
18 persons experiencing mental illness and to institute equal care
19 for physical and mental health services; therefore be it

20 RESOLVED, That the House of Representatives recognize the
21 month of October 2016 as "National Depression Education and
22 Awareness Month" and recognize the week of October 2 through 8,
23 2016, as "Mental Health Awareness Week" in Pennsylvania.