

THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF PENNSYLVANIA

SENATE RESOLUTION

No. 445 Session of
2018

INTRODUCED BY BARTOLOTTA, DINNIMAN, STREET, MENSCH, GREENLEAF,
EICHELBERGER, FONTANA, BROWNE, MARTIN, SABATINA, BLAKE,
BREWSTER, FOLMER, COSTA, BAKER, RESCHENTHALER, HUGHES,
SCHWANK, KILLION, AUMENT, RAFFERTY AND WARD, OCTOBER 1, 2018

INTRODUCED AND ADOPTED, OCTOBER 1, 2018

A RESOLUTION

1 Recognizing October 10, 2018, as "World Mental Health Day" in
2 Pennsylvania.

3 WHEREAS, Mental health is essential to achieve the full
4 potential of an individual and mental health disorders can
5 affect the ability of an individual to carry out daily tasks,
6 establish or maintain relationships or pursue other fundamental
7 endeavors; and

8 WHEREAS, Mental health disorders and substance use disorders
9 are the leading causes of disability globally; and

10 WHEREAS, Depression is the third leading cause of disease
11 burden globally, and, by 2030, depression will be the highest
12 cause of disease burden in low-income countries and the second
13 highest cause of disease burden in middle-income countries; and

14 WHEREAS, Depression has a particularly negative impact on
15 women, for whom depression is the leading cause of disease
16 burden, independent of the income level of their countries of
17 residence; and

WHEREAS, Approximately 3,000 suicide deaths occur each day globally; and

WHEREAS, For each completed suicide, 20 more individuals attempt suicide; and

WHEREAS, Up to 90% of individuals who complete suicide have a diagnosable mental health disorder; and

WHEREAS, Students who both are targets of bullying and engage in bullying behavior are at greater risk for both mental health and behavior problems than students who are only bullied or who only bully; and

WHEREAS, Serious and persistent mental illness, such as schizophrenia and bipolar disorder, affects up to 7% of the population of the world and is extremely debilitating; and

WHEREAS, In high-income countries, approximately one half of all individuals afflicted with mental health disorders do not receive appropriate mental health care; and

WHEREAS, In low-income countries, approximately 85% to 90% of individuals afflicted with mental health disorders do not receive appropriate mental health care; and

WHEREAS, Integrating mental health and psychosocial support into health and social sectors improves the health, economic development and political stability of the population, builds the capacity of staff and health facilities and creates non-stigmatizing mental health services; and

WHEREAS, There is an urgent need to create readily accessible, high-quality mental health services in line with national and global guidelines by designing and implementing comprehensive programs that are culturally, developmentally and linguistically appropriate, building local human resource capacity and strengthening health systems; therefore be it

1 RESOLVED, That the Senate recognize October 10, 2018, as
2 "World Mental Health Day" in Pennsylvania to highlight the
3 importance of mental health globally and the contributions and
4 value of mental health; and be it further

5 RESOLVED, That the Commonwealth honor the importance of
6 trained mental health workers as they enhance human well-being
7 and mental health, restore functioning and save lives by
8 ensuring the availability of high-quality, context-relevant
9 mental health and psychosocial support services; and be it
10 further

11 RESOLVED, That the Commonwealth commend the dedication of
12 organizations, professionals and volunteers globally who work to
13 improve the mental health of all individuals and the important
14 contributions and bravery of individuals globally who live with
15 or have overcome mental health disorders.