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THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF PENNSYLVANIA

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HOUSE RESOLUTION

No. 816 Session of  
2020

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INTRODUCED BY DONATUCCI, KORTZ, BIZZARRO, MERSKI, SCHLEGEL  
CULVER, LONGIETTI, SONNEY, BURNS, KIM, MURT, FREEMAN,  
READSHAW, THOMAS, KINSEY, HILL-EVANS, NEILSON, MILLARD,  
McCLINTON AND MALAGARI, MARCH 13, 2020

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REFERRED TO COMMITTEE ON HUMAN SERVICES, MARCH 13, 2020

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A RESOLUTION

1 Recognizing the month of April 2020 as "Counseling Awareness  
2 Month" in Pennsylvania.

3 WHEREAS, Professional counseling is a therapeutic  
4 relationship that empowers diverse individuals, families and  
5 groups to accomplish mental health wellness, education and  
6 career goals; and

7 WHEREAS, Common specialties within professional counseling  
8 include mental health counseling, school counseling, career  
9 counseling, addictions counseling and couples and family  
10 counseling; and

11 WHEREAS, Professional counseling can assist individuals in  
12 need of support for anxiety disorders, depression, grief and  
13 loss, self-care, trauma, suicide prevention, substance use  
14 disorders, relationship issues, career choices and life  
15 transitions; and

16 WHEREAS, Professional counseling contributes to the growth  
17 and development of people across their life span and assists

1 them in achieving their full human, educational and career  
2 potential; and

3 WHEREAS, Individuals can utilize professional counseling in  
4 schools, colleges, mental health agencies, community agencies,  
5 hospitals, rehabilitation centers, private practice and other  
6 delivery settings; and

7 WHEREAS, More than 665,000 counselors are working across the  
8 United States as vital members of the cadre of professional  
9 human services providers alongside psychologists, psychiatrists,  
10 social workers and other licensed professionals; and

11 WHEREAS, Professional counselors have a master's or doctoral  
12 degree in counseling and are passionate, represent culturally  
13 diverse communities and are committed to helping people from all  
14 walks of life; and

15 WHEREAS, The American Counseling Association was established  
16 in 1952 and is the largest organization of professional  
17 counselors in the world; and

18 WHEREAS, The American Counseling Association offers an array  
19 of programs and services to promote the professional development  
20 of counselors and advocate for the counseling profession; and

21 WHEREAS, Since 2002, the American Counseling Association has  
22 annually recognized April as "Counseling Awareness Month" to  
23 advocate for the profession and as a celebration of the field's  
24 accomplishments; and

25 WHEREAS, "Counseling Awareness Month" is an excellent  
26 opportunity for professional counselors to reach out to the  
27 public and talk about the work they do, the communal benefits of  
28 counseling and how counseling has helped change, and continues  
29 to change, society for the better; therefore be it

30 RESOLVED, That the House of Representatives recognize the

1 month of April 2020 as "Counseling Awareness Month" in  
2 Pennsylvania; and be it further

3       RESOLVED, That the House of Representatives acknowledge the  
4 benefits of professional counseling in pursuit of wellness,  
5 career development and individual empowerment.