A RESOLUTION

1 Designating November 25, 2018, as "Elimination of Violence Against Women Day" in Pennsylvania to coincide with the United Nations' "International Day for the Elimination of Violence Against Women."

WHEREAS, The House of Representatives acknowledges the global, State and local imperative to prevent and end gender-based discrimination and violence; and

WHEREAS, Violence affecting one in three women globally is one of the main mechanisms denying equality; and

WHEREAS, Violence against women includes acts that can cause physical, sexual or psychological harm in public or private life; and

WHEREAS, In its various forms, violence against women fractures families and communities and impacts progress toward poverty reduction, peace and security; and

WHEREAS, The General Assembly of the United Nations recognizes numerous international frameworks and instruments
defining the obligation of member states to prevent and respond to violence against women; and

WHEREAS, Former United Nations Secretary-General Ban Ki-moon noted that sustainable development goals are not achieved without addressing the rights of women in law and in practice; and

WHEREAS, November 25 has been designated and is annually observed as the date for the international observance; and

WHEREAS, This date commemorates the 1960 assassination of Patria, Minerva and Maria Teresa Mirabal from the Dominican Republic during the Rafael Trujillo dictatorship; and

WHEREAS, The Mirabal sisters have come to symbolize popular resistance against the victimization of women; and

WHEREAS, The Office on Women's Health of the United States Department of Health and Human Services works with other Federal, State and local agencies to stop violence against women and girls; and

WHEREAS, The Pennsylvania Coalition Against Domestic Violence and the Pennsylvania Coalition Against Rape advocate for the rights and needs of female victims of violence and work to break cycles of violence in this Commonwealth; and

WHEREAS, The House of Representatives reaffirms its commitment to protect women affected by violence and to prevent acts of discrimination and violence against women; therefore be it

RESOLVED, That the House of Representatives designate November 25, 2018, as "Elimination of Violence Against Women Day" in Pennsylvania to coincide with the United Nations' "International Day for the Elimination of Violence Against Women.

20180HR1188PN4327 - 2 -