

THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF PENNSYLVANIA

HOUSE RESOLUTION

No. 465 Session of
2005

INTRODUCED BY BEBKO-JONES, BALDWIN, BARRAR, BASTIAN, BELARDI, BISHOP, BOYD, BUNT, CALTAGIRONE, CAPPELLI, CAUSER, FICHTER, FORCIER, FRANKEL, FREEMAN, GABIG, GANNON, GEIST, GEORGE, GINGRICH, GODSHALL, GOOD, GOODMAN, GRUITZA, HARHAI, HARHART, MANDERINO, MANN, MARKOSEK, MARSICO, McGEEHAN, MCGILL, MCILHATTAN, MILLARD, S. MILLER, MUNDY, NAILOR, O'NEILL, PALLONE, PAYNE, SANTONI, SATHER, SCAVELLO, SCHRODER, SHANER, B. SMITH, SONNEY, STABACK, SURRA, TANGRETTI, E. Z. TAYLOR, THOMAS, TIGUE, CLYMER, CORRIGAN, CRAHALLA, CREIGHTON, CRUZ, DALEY, DeLUCA, DENLINGER, DERMODY, DeWEESE, DIGIROLAMO, DONATUCCI, J. EVANS, FABRIZIO, FAIRCHILD, HASAY, HENNESSEY, HERMAN, HERSHEY, HESS, JAMES, KOTIK, LEDERER, MAITLAND, PHILLIPS, PICKETT, RAMALEY, READSHAW, REED, ROSS, RUBLEY, SAINATO AND BENNINGHOFF, OCTOBER 17, 2005

To Calendar under Rule 35-Uncontested Calendar October 17, 2005

A RESOLUTION

1 Designating the week of October 2 through 8, 2005, as "Mental
2 Illness Awareness Week" in Pennsylvania.

3 WHEREAS, Serious mental illnesses are biological brain
4 disorders that are definable and treatable; and

5 WHEREAS, More than 1 million people throughout this
6 Commonwealth are affected by a form of mental illness such as
7 schizophrenia, bipolar disorder, clinical depression, panic
8 disorder or obsessive compulsive disorder; and

9 WHEREAS, Mental illness can affect persons of any age, race,
10 religion or income and are not the result of personal weakness,
11 lack of character or poor upbringing; and

12 WHEREAS, Many individuals with mental illness are capable of

1 working, attending college and making important contributions to
2 their communities and this Commonwealth; and

3 WHEREAS, Efforts need to be made to combat the stigma
4 associated with mental illness, including greater awareness that
5 these disorders cannot be overcome by willpower and are not
6 related to a person's character or intelligence; and

7 WHEREAS, Early identification and treatment of mental illness
8 is of vital importance, with early treatment accelerating
9 recovery and protecting the brain from further harm related to
10 the course of illness; and

11 WHEREAS, The National Alliance for the Mentally Ill, the
12 nation's voice on mental illness, has reported that between 70%
13 and 90% of individuals have significant reduction of symptoms
14 and improved quality of life with a combination of
15 pharmacological and psychosocial treatments and supports;
16 therefore be it

17 RESOLVED, That the House of Representatives designate the
18 week of October 2 through 8, 2005, as "Mental Illness Awareness
19 Week" in Pennsylvania.