

THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF PENNSYLVANIA

SENATE RESOLUTION

No. 196 Session of
2007

INTRODUCED BY ORIE, WASHINGTON, STOUT, MELLOW, FONTANA, LOGAN,
KITCHEN, MADIGAN, TOMLINSON, PUNT, MUSTO, TARTAGLIONE,
O'PAKE, VANCE, BROWNE, GREENLEAF, PILEGGI, DINNIMAN, PICCOLA,
FUMO, ARMSTRONG, STACK, BRUBAKER, LAVALLE, ERICKSON,
M. WHITE, GORDNER, BOSCOLA, EARLL, WOZNIAK, RAFFERTY,
D. WHITE, COSTA, FOLMER, BAKER, C. WILLIAMS, REGOLA, KASUNIC
AND FERLO, OCTOBER 15, 2007

INTRODUCED AND ADOPTED, OCTOBER 15, 2007

A RESOLUTION

1 Designating the month of October 2007 as "Domestic Violence
2 Awareness Month" in Pennsylvania.

3 WHEREAS, Approximately 80,000 Pennsylvanians each year are
4 victims of domestic violence; and

5 WHEREAS, According to the Pennsylvania Coalition Against
6 Domestic Violence, on a single day in November 2006, more than
7 2,477 adults and children in this Commonwealth sought services
8 from domestic violence agencies; and

9 WHEREAS, In 2006, 92 victims of domestic violence lost their
10 lives in this Commonwealth; and

11 WHEREAS, Approximately 1,800 murders nationally are
12 attributed to domestic violence each year; and

13 WHEREAS, According to Federal Bureau of Investigation
14 statistics, a woman is beaten every 15 seconds; and

15 WHEREAS, Battery is a leading cause of injury to women; and

1 WHEREAS, Studies show that battered women who work face a
2 high likelihood of losing their jobs because of the effects of
3 domestic violence; and

4 WHEREAS, According to the Department of Justice, nearly 50%
5 of all domestic violence acts are witnessed by children; and

6 WHEREAS, The nationwide annual health care-related costs of
7 rape, physical assault, stalking and homicide by intimate
8 partners exceed \$4.1 billion; and

9 WHEREAS, The workplace consequences of domestic violence
10 account for almost \$1.8 billion in lost productivity and
11 earnings in the United States each year, which is the equivalent
12 of more than 32,000 full-time jobs and nearly 5.6 million days
13 of household productivity; and

14 WHEREAS, In the United States an estimated 10% of primary
15 care physicians routinely screen for partner abuse when patients
16 are not currently injured; and

17 WHEREAS, The importance of screening patients for symptoms of
18 domestic violence was emphasized by this General Assembly by Act
19 115 of 1998, establishing the Domestic Violence Health Care
20 Response Program; and

21 WHEREAS, Pennsylvania is the first state in the nation to
22 institute universal screening for domestic violence; and

23 WHEREAS, The Family Violence Prevention Fund has given
24 Pennsylvania "A" grade with regard to domestic violence health
25 care laws; and

26 WHEREAS, According to a 2006 report by the Bureau of Justice
27 Statistics, only 21% of female victims and 10% of male victims
28 will contact an outside agency for assistance; and

29 WHEREAS, All Pennsylvanians should be aware of the multitude
30 of symptoms and signs associated with domestic violence as well

1 as the available resources for victim assistance; therefore be
2 it

3 RESOLVED, That the Senate designate the month of October 2007
4 as "Domestic Violence Awareness Month" in Pennsylvania and
5 encourage all Pennsylvanians to learn more about the causes,
6 signs, prevention and treatment for domestic violence.