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THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF PENNSYLVANIA

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HOUSE RESOLUTION

No. 1053 Session of  
2018

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INTRODUCED BY DEASY, READSHAW, NEILSON, BIZZARRO, HENNESSEY,  
MILLARD, HARKINS, BOBACK, SCHLOSSBERG, PASHINSKI, WATSON,  
BURNS, DUSH, SONNEY, LONGIETTI, DAVIS, HILL-EVANS, KULIK,  
SCHLEGEL CULVER, KINSEY, TOEPEL, J. McNEILL, DRISCOLL,  
R. BROWN, KIRKLAND, TOOHL, CALTAGIRONE, MARSICO, DALEY AND  
YOUNGBLOOD, SEPTEMBER 14, 2018

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INTRODUCED AS NONCONTROVERSIAL RESOLUTION UNDER RULE 35,  
SEPTEMBER 14, 2018

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A RESOLUTION

1 Recognizing October 2018 as "National Substance Abuse Prevention  
2 Month" in Pennsylvania.

3 WHEREAS, The Office of National Drug Control Policy joins  
4 many around the nation in observing "National Substance Abuse  
5 Prevention Month" to highlight the vital role of substance abuse  
6 prevention in both individual and community health and to  
7 remember those who have lost their lives to substance abuse; and

8 WHEREAS, Millions of Americans suffer from substance abuse,  
9 which includes underage drinking, alcohol dependency, nonmedical  
10 use of prescription drugs, abuse of over-the-counter medications  
11 and illicit drug use; and

12 WHEREAS, According to the 2015 National Survey on Drug Use  
13 and Health, 15.1 million adults 18 years of age and older had an  
14 alcohol use disorder and an estimated 623,000 adolescents ages  
15 12 to 17 years of age had an alcohol use disorder; and

1       WHEREAS, Pennsylvania currently ranks higher than most other  
2 states for heroin and opioid substance abuse and youth alcohol  
3 abuse; and

4       WHEREAS, According to the Drug Enforcement Administration,  
5 Pennsylvania saw a 37% increase in drug overdose deaths from  
6 2015 to 2016; and

7       WHEREAS, Prevention strategies are essential to curtail drug  
8 use and help people lead healthier lives; and

9       WHEREAS, Early intervention helps prevent substance abuse and  
10 reduces the negative consequences of addiction; and

11       WHEREAS, According to the National Institute on Drug Abuse,  
12 the abuse of tobacco, alcohol and illicit drugs results in \$740  
13 billion annually in costs related to crime, lost work  
14 productivity and health care; and

15       WHEREAS, Each dollar invested in an evidence-based prevention  
16 program can reduce costs related to substance use disorders by  
17 an average of \$18.30; and

18       WHEREAS, Throughout "National Substance Abuse Prevention  
19 Month," the Office of National Drug Control Policy will  
20 orchestrate Federal prevention activities and support  
21 participation in the observance within states and communities;  
22 and

23       WHEREAS, Through community-based efforts involving youth,  
24 parents, educators and government, the nation can strengthen  
25 support systems and decrease substance abuse; therefore be it

26       RESOLVED, That the House of Representatives recognize October  
27 2018 as "National Substance Abuse Prevention Month" in  
28 Pennsylvania.