




Senate of Pennsylvania

Senator LeAnna M. Washington  
4<sup>th</sup> Senatorial District

---

MEMORANDUM

**Date:** October 6, 2011  
**To:** All Senators  
**From:** Senator LeAnna M. Washington   
**Subject:** Co-sponsorship request – **Resolution: “Bullying Awareness Month”**

In the very near future, I will introduce a resolution declaring October 2011 as “Bullying Awareness Month” in Pennsylvania. Bullying and cyber-bullying has become a serious issue, leading to the suicide of some youth. It is important that parents, teachers and the community is aware of the signs of bullying. Both the one being bullied and the one doing the bullying are in need of our attention.

Bullying is intentional, repeated behavior by one or more people, which can harm others physically and emotionally. This abuse can take many forms and crosses all classes, ages, religions and areas without discrimination. Bullying is most common during elementary and middle school years but also occurs in high school. In 2009 the Office of Juvenile Justice and Delinquency Prevention reported that among children and youth aged 17 and younger, about 1 in 5 report being physically bullied, and about 3 in 10 report being teased or emotionally bullied in their lifetime. In 2010, the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) study of youth grades 9-12, reported that 21.2% of females and 18.7% of males reported being bullied on school property in the previous 12 months.

To indicate your interest in co-sponsoring this important resolution, please contact Cindie Watkins in my office by calling 7-1428 or emailing [cwatkins@pasenate.com](mailto:cwatkins@pasenate.com).