

MEMORANDUM

TO: ALL HOUSE MEMBERS

FROM: Representative Vanessa Lowery Brown

RE: Resolution Recognizing National Men's Health Week and
National Men's Health Month in Pennsylvania

I will soon introduce a resolution recognizing June 11 through 17, 2012 as National Men's Health Week in Pennsylvania and the month of June 2012 as National Men's Health Month in Pennsylvania.

Reports by the Men's Health Network demonstrate that an ongoing, increasing and predominantly silent crisis exists in the health and well-being of men in the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania and across the nation. The Network has determined the crisis exists due to a lack of awareness, poor health education, and culturally induced behavior patterns in the work and personal lives of men, which causes steady deterioration to their health and well-being.

The bottom line is that despite medical technology and research advances, men continue to live an average of five years less than women. Further, men also die at higher rates from the nine of the top ten causes of death and make up 92 percent of workplace deaths. Still further colon, prostate, testicular and lung cancer rates and deaths remain high for men. Too many men die from these diseases and other illnesses because they avoid going to doctors regularly for checkups or for other preventative measures as women do.

In addition to recognizing National Men's Health Week and Month, the resolution urges all men in the Commonwealth to increase their awareness of the value of preventative measures to protect their health and well-being. It also includes language in support of programs such as the Men's Health Network's Think Blue events, health screenings and other activities geared toward inspiring men to become more physically active, to eat nutritiously, start or continue a healthy lifestyle and follow preventative health measures.

Please contact Cameron Texter in the Democratic Caucus' Office of Member Services at ctexter@pahouse.net to join with me in sponsoring this legislation. Thanks.