

THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF PENNSYLVANIA

HOUSE RESOLUTION

No. 447 Session of
2005

INTRODUCED BY SIPTROTH, CASORIO, ROSS, GERBER, PYLE, YUDICHAK,
GINGRICH, HARHAI, RAMALEY, BIANCUCCI, LESCOVITZ, FREEMAN,
MAJOR, STEIL, PETRI, M. KELLER AND T. STEVENSON,
SEPTEMBER 28, 2005

INTRODUCED AS NONCONTROVERSIAL RESOLUTION UNDER RULE 35,
SEPTEMBER 28, 2005

A RESOLUTION

1 Designating the month of October 2005 as "Domestic Violence
2 Awareness Month" in Pennsylvania.

3 WHEREAS, Domestic violence is a pattern of abusive behaviors
4 used to establish power and control over an intimate partner;
5 and

6 WHEREAS, Domestic violence is often escalating and extended;
7 and

8 WHEREAS, Forty percent of domestic violence victims never
9 contact police; and

10 WHEREAS, There are many other barriers to detecting domestic
11 violence; and

12 WHEREAS, Domestic violence takes many forms, including
13 threats; and

14 WHEREAS, Domestic violence causes isolation, injuries, trauma
15 and death by suicide or homicide; and

16 WHEREAS, In 2004 there were 110 deaths in this Commonwealth

1 among domestic violence victims and 43 deaths among domestic
2 violence assailants; and

3 WHEREAS, Children comprise 15% of victims injured in domestic
4 assaults and witness 85% of domestic assaults; and

5 WHEREAS, Half of homeless women and children are fleeing
6 domestic violence; and

7 WHEREAS, One-third to one-half of geriatric abuse victims
8 have been beaten by intimate partners; and

9 WHEREAS, To increase victims' safety, authorities must
10 carefully follow screening, reporting, documentation and
11 referral requirements; and

12 WHEREAS, At-risk individuals and families need victim
13 education relating to their legal rights, judicial proceedings,
14 advocacy, counseling and support services, shelter care and
15 crisis intervention; therefore be it

16 RESOLVED, That the House of Representatives designate the
17 month of October 2005 as "Domestic Violence Awareness Month" in
18 Pennsylvania.