
THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF PENNSYLVANIA

HOUSE RESOLUTION

No. 1001 Session of
2015

INTRODUCED BY MURT, DiGIROLAMO, BIZZARRO, BOBACK, R. BROWN,
BULLOCK, COOK-ARTIS, SCHLEGEL CULVER, CUTLER, DEAN,
DONATUCCI, DUSH, EVERETT, GIBBONS, GINGRICH, GODSHALL,
HARHART, HENNESSEY, KINSEY, KIRKLAND, LONGIETTI, MAHONEY,
MAJOR, MARSICO, McNEILL, MILLARD, NEILSON, D. PARKER,
READSHAW, REGAN, ROZZI, SAYLOR, SCHLOSSBERG, SCHWEYER,
SONNEY, STAATS, VEREB, WARD, WATSON AND YOUNGBLOOD,
SEPTEMBER 15, 2016

INTRODUCED AS NONCONTROVERSIAL RESOLUTION UNDER RULE 35,
SEPTEMBER 15, 2016

A RESOLUTION

1 Recognizing the week of October 2 through 8, 2016, as "Mental
2 Illness Awareness Week" in Pennsylvania.

3 WHEREAS, Mental health is part of overall health; and

4 WHEREAS, One in five adults experiences a mental health
5 problem in any given year; and

6 WHEREAS, Approximately one-half of chronic mental illness
7 begins by 14 years of age; and

8 WHEREAS, Approximately three-quarters of chronic mental
9 illness begins by 24 years of age; and

10 WHEREAS, Suicide is the 10th leading cause of death in the
11 United States and the 2nd leading cause among young adults; and

12 WHEREAS, Ninety percent of people who die by suicide have an
13 underlying mental illness; and

14 WHEREAS, Decades-long delays can occur between the first

1 appearance of symptoms and the time when individuals get help;
2 and

3 WHEREAS, Early identification and treatment can make a
4 difference in successful management of mental illness and
5 recovery; and

6 WHEREAS, It is important to maintain mental health and learn
7 the symptoms of mental illness in order to seek treatment when
8 needed; and

9 WHEREAS, Every person and each community in this Commonwealth
10 can make a difference in ending the silence and stigma that has
11 long surrounded mental illness and discouraged people from
12 getting help; and

13 WHEREAS, Public education and civic activities can further
14 promote mental health awareness and improve the lives of
15 individuals and families affected by mental illness; therefore
16 be it

17 RESOLVED, That the House of Representatives recognize the
18 week of October 2 through 8, 2016, as "Mental Illness Awareness
19 Week" in Pennsylvania to shine a light on mental illness and to
20 fight stigma, provide support, educate the public and advocate
21 for equal care; and be it further

22 RESOLVED, That all citizens, businesses, schools and
23 community organizations be encouraged to take the StigmaFree
24 Pledge at www.nami.org/stigmafree in conjunction with this
25 observance.