

THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF PENNSYLVANIA

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# SENATE RESOLUTION

No. 269 Session of  
2002

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INTRODUCED BY ORIE, HOLL, KUKOVICH, COSTA, TARTAGLIONE,  
SCHWARTZ, MURPHY, EARLL, M. WHITE, STACK, BODACK, ERICKSON,  
O'PAKE, KASUNIC, MOWERY, LEMMOND, KITCHEN, THOMPSON,  
C. WILLIAMS, DENT, GREENLEAF, A. WILLIAMS, WAUGH AND WOZNIAK,  
SEPTEMBER 20, 2002

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REFERRED TO RULES AND EXECUTIVE NOMINATIONS, SEPTEMBER 20, 2002

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## A RESOLUTION

1 Designating October 9, 2002, as "Health Cares About Domestic  
2 Violence Day" in Pennsylvania.

3 WHEREAS, The Family Violence Prevention Fund's National  
4 Health Initiative on Domestic Violence has designated October 9,  
5 2002, as "Health Cares About Domestic Violence Day" across the  
6 nation; and

7 WHEREAS, The importance of screening patients for symptoms of  
8 domestic violence was emphasized by this legislature most  
9 recently by the passage of Act 115 of 1998, which establishes  
10 the Domestic Violence Health Care Response Program; and

11 WHEREAS, Pennsylvania is the first state in the United States  
12 to institute domestic violence universal screening; and

13 WHEREAS, For the second year in a row the Family Violence  
14 Prevention Fund (FVPPF) has designated Pennsylvania as the only  
15 state in the nation worthy of an "A" grade as a result of the  
16 Commonwealth's Domestic Violence Health Care Laws, including the

1 Domestic Violence Health Care Response Program; and

2 WHEREAS, Health care providers are extremely vital for  
3 detection and prevention of injuries related to domestic  
4 violence; and

5 WHEREAS, All Pennsylvanians, particularly health care  
6 providers, should be made aware of the multitude of symptoms and  
7 signs associated with domestic violence; and

8 WHEREAS, Approximately only 10% of primary care physicians  
9 across the nation routinely screen patients for partner abuse  
10 when not currently injured; and

11 WHEREAS, Battery is a leading cause of injury to women; and

12 WHEREAS, It is estimated that nearly 4 million women are  
13 physically abused each year throughout the United States; and

14 WHEREAS, Approximately 1,800 murders nationally are  
15 attributed to domestic violence each year; therefore be it

16 RESOLVED, That the Senate designate October 9, 2002, as  
17 "Health Cares About Domestic Violence Day"; and be it further

18 RESOLVED, That the Senate encourage all Pennsylvanians to  
19 learn more about the causes, signs, prevention and treatment of  
20 domestic violence.