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THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF PENNSYLVANIA

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# HOUSE RESOLUTION

No. 200      Session of  
2007

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INTRODUCED BY SIPTROTH, BAKER, BELFANTI, BENNINGTON, BEYER,  
BIANCUCCI, BISHOP, BOBACK, BOYD, BUXTON, CALTAGIRONE,  
CAPPELLI, COHEN, CONKLIN, CREIGHTON, DALEY, DeLUCA,  
DePASQUALE, DeWEESE, DiGIROLAMO, DONATUCCI, EVERETT,  
FAIRCHILD, GABIG, GALLOWAY, GEIST, GEORGE, GIBBONS,  
GILLESPIE, GINGRICH, GOODMAN, GRUCELA, HARHART, HENNESSEY,  
HERSHEY, HESS, HUTCHINSON, JAMES, KOTIK, KULA, LEACH,  
MAHONEY, MAJOR, MANN, MANTZ, MARKOSEK, McGEEHAN, McILHATTAN,  
METCALFE, MILLARD, MOYER, MUNDY, MUSTIO, NAILOR, M. O'BRIEN,  
O'NEILL, PALLONE, PAYNE, PETRONE, PHILLIPS, PICKETT, PYLE,  
QUIGLEY, QUINN, RAMALEY, RAPP, READSHAW, REED, REICHLEY,  
ROHRER, ROSS, RUBLEY, SAINATO, SANTONI, SHIMKUS, SONNEY,  
R. STEVENSON, SURRA, SWANGER, TANGRETTI, THOMAS, TRUE, VEREB,  
VULAKOVICH, WHEATLEY, WOJNAROSKI, YOUNGBLOOD AND YUDICHAK,  
APRIL 13, 2007

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INTRODUCED AS NONCONTROVERSIAL RESOLUTION UNDER RULE 35,  
APRIL 13, 2007

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## A RESOLUTION

1 Designating the month of October 2007 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

1       WHEREAS, Domestic violence takes many forms, including  
2 threats; and

3       WHEREAS, Domestic violence causes isolation, injuries, trauma  
4 and death by suicide or homicide; and

5       WHEREAS, In 2005 there were 130 deaths in this Commonwealth  
6 among domestic violence victims and 50 deaths among domestic  
7 violence assailants; and

8       WHEREAS, In a single day more than 2,477 adults and children  
9 in this Commonwealth sought services for domestic violence; and

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

12       WHEREAS, Half of homeless women and children are fleeing  
13 domestic violence; and

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

16       WHEREAS, To increase victims' safety, authorities must  
17 carefully follow screening, reporting, documentation and  
18 referral requirements; and

19       WHEREAS, At-risk individuals and families need victim  
20 education relating to their legal rights, judicial proceedings,  
21 advocacy, counseling and support services, shelter care and  
22 crisis intervention; therefore be it

23       RESOLVED, That the House of Representatives designate the  
24 month of October 2007 as "Domestic Violence Awareness Month" in  
25 Pennsylvania.