
THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF PENNSYLVANIA

HOUSE RESOLUTION

No. 940 Session of
2010

INTRODUCED BY SIPTROTH, BELFANTI, BEYER, BISHOP, BOYLE, BRENNAN, BRIGGS, BROOKS, BROWN, BUXTON, CALTAGIRONE, CAUSER, CONKLIN, DALEY, DeLUCA, DiGIROLAMO, DONATUCCI, EVERETT, FABRIZIO, FLECK, FRANKEL, FREEMAN, GABIG, GINGRICH, GROVE, GRUCELA, HELM, HENNESSEY, HICKERNELL, KILLION, KORTZ, MAHONEY, MAJOR, MANN, McGEEHAN, MICOZZIE, MILLARD, MILNE, MIRABITO, MUNDY, OBERLANDER, M. O'BRIEN, O'NEILL, PALLONE, PARKER, PASHINSKI, PAYNE, PAYTON, PYLE, READSHAW, REED, ROCK, ROSS, SAINATO, SANTARSIERO, SANTONI, SAYLOR, K. SMITH, SOLOBAY, SONNEY, STERN, SWANGER, TRUE, VEREB, VULAKOVICH, WAGNER, WATSON, WHITE, YOUNGBLOOD AND STABACK, SEPTEMBER 20, 2010

INTRODUCED AS NONCONTROVERSIAL RESOLUTION UNDER RULE 35,
SEPTEMBER 20, 2010

A RESOLUTION

1 Recognizing the month of October 2010 as "Domestic Violence
2 Awareness Month" in Pennsylvania.

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

6 WHEREAS, Domestic violence often causes emotional harm to
7 victims, their children, other family members, friends,
8 neighbors and coworkers; and

9 WHEREAS, Domestic violence affects men and women in all
10 racial, ethnic, religious, educational, social and economic
11 backgrounds; and

12 WHEREAS, Domestic violence takes many forms, whereby victims
13 are often subjected to abuse, harassment, threats, vandalism,

1 trespassing, burglary, theft and stalking; and

2 WHEREAS, Domestic violence is often escalated, causing
3 victims to suffer physical and emotional trauma, anxiety,
4 stress, sleep deprivation, loss of confidence, fear and, in some
5 cases, injury and death by suicide or homicide; and

6 WHEREAS, Domestic violence is one of the most chronically
7 underreported crimes; and

8 WHEREAS, There are many barriers to detecting domestic
9 violence; and

10 WHEREAS, One in every four women and one in every nine men
11 will experience domestic violence in his or her lifetime; and

12 WHEREAS, One in six women and one in 33 men have experienced
13 an attempted or completed rape; and

14 WHEREAS, Approximately 1.3 million women and 835,000 men are
15 physically assaulted by an intimate partner annually in the
16 United States; and

17 WHEREAS, Thirty to sixty percent of perpetrators of intimate
18 partner violence also abuse children in the home; and

19 WHEREAS, Intimate partner violence results in more than 18.5
20 million mental health care visits each year; and

21 WHEREAS, The cost of intimate partner violence exceeds \$5.8
22 billion each year, \$4.1 billion of which is for direct medical
23 and mental health services; and

24 WHEREAS, Less than 20% of victims who report an injury from
25 intimate partner violence seek medical treatment following the
26 injury; and

27 WHEREAS, Children who witness domestic violence in their
28 homes are 74% more likely to commit criminal assaults as adults;
29 and

30 WHEREAS, Victims of domestic violence lose almost 8 million

1 days of paid work annually as a result of the violence; and

2 WHEREAS, Each year, businesses forfeit about \$100 million in
3 lost wages, sick leave, absenteeism and nonproductivity; and

4 WHEREAS, Only about 20% of those who experience intimate
5 partner violence obtain Protection from Abuse orders; and

6 WHEREAS, Each year, domestic violence programs in
7 Pennsylvania provide services to approximately 95,000 victims of
8 domestic violence; 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 recognize the
17 month of October 2010 as "Domestic Violence Awareness Month" in
18 Pennsylvania.