
THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF PENNSYLVANIA

HOUSE RESOLUTION

No. 38 Session of
2013

INTRODUCED BY WHEATLEY, READSHAW, O'BRIEN, CLAY, BAKER,
SCHLOSSBERG, COHEN, BISHOP, MCNEILL, ROSS, BROWNLEE, KORTZ,
SANTARSIERO, MILLARD, CALTAGIRONE, ROEBUCK, WATSON, FLECK,
THOMAS, HARHART, MCCARTER, GOODMAN, P. DALEY, KINSEY,
YOUNGBLOOD AND PARKER, JANUARY 23, 2013

INTRODUCED AS NONCONTROVERSIAL RESOLUTION UNDER RULE 35,
JANUARY 23, 2013

A RESOLUTION

1 Recognizing February 7, 2013, as "National Black HIV/AIDS
2 Awareness Day" in Pennsylvania.

3 WHEREAS, According to the Centers for Disease Control and
4 Prevention (CDC), HIV/AIDS affect African Americans at alarming
5 rates and of all of the racial and ethnic groups present within
6 the United States, African Americans are the most affected by
7 HIV/AIDS; and

8 WHEREAS, In 2009, African Americans comprised 14% of the
9 United States population and 44% of all new HIV infections; and

10 WHEREAS, In 2009, African-American men were among 70% of the
11 estimated new HIV infections among all African Americans and as
12 a result, the estimated rate of new HIV infection for African-
13 American men was more than six and one-half times as high as
14 that of Latino men or African-American women; and

15 WHEREAS, In 2009, African-American women made up 30% of the
16 estimated new HIV infections among all African Americans and the

1 estimated rate of new HIV infections for African-American women
2 was more than 15 times as high as the rate for Caucasian women,
3 and more than three times as high as that of Latina women; and

4 WHEREAS, In 2009, there were an estimated 11,200 new HIV
5 infections among women in the United States, of which African-
6 American women encompassed 57%; and

7 WHEREAS, One in 32 African-American women face an increased
8 risk of being diagnosed with HIV; and

9 WHEREAS, According to the Kaiser Family Foundation, the rate
10 of new AIDS diagnoses per 100,000 for African Americans in 2010
11 was approximately ten times greater than that of Caucasians, and
12 the rate of new infection was roughly eight times greater among
13 African Americans than among Caucasians in 2009; and

14 WHEREAS, National Black HIV/AIDS Awareness Day seeks to
15 educate African Americans about this devastating disease through
16 a platform emphasizing four main points: education, testing,
17 involvement and treatment; and

18 WHEREAS, National Black HIV/AIDS Awareness Day began in 2000
19 as five organizations, including Concerned Black Men, Inc., of
20 Philadelphia, Health Watch Information and Promotion Services,
21 Inc., Jackson State University–Mississippi Urban Research
22 Center, National Black Alcoholism and Addictions Council, and
23 National Black Leadership Commission on AIDS, worked
24 collectively to assist in the effort to decrease and ultimately
25 eradicate HIV/AIDS in the African-American community; and

26 WHEREAS, Healthy Black Communities (HBC) will serve as the
27 leading organization ensuring the initiative is carried out
28 annually, in part by maintaining an active web presence
29 promoting awareness of the importance of educating communities
30 on the effects of HIV/AIDS; and

1 WHEREAS, It is imperative that African Americans educate
2 themselves and their communities on the effects of HIV/AIDS in
3 part by learning their status as education and early detection
4 are critical in saving lives; therefore be it

5 RESOLVED, That the House of Representatives recognize
6 February 7, 2013, as "National Black HIV/AIDS Awareness Day" in
7 Pennsylvania; and be it further

8 RESOLVED, That the House of Representatives annually
9 recognize "National Black HIV/AIDS Awareness Day" to increase
10 education, promote inclusion, and emphasize the importance of
11 HIV/AIDS testing and treatment.