

THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF PENNSYLVANIA

HOUSE RESOLUTION

No. 764 Session of
2015

INTRODUCED BY SCHLOSSBERG, DeLUCA, DiGIROLAMO, MURT, DAVIDSON,
ACOSTA, BAKER, BIZZARRO, R. BROWN, V. BROWN, BULLOCK, BURNS,
CALTAGIRONE, COHEN, D. COSTA, CRUZ, CUTLER, DEASY, DONATUCCI,
DUSH, FARRY, GIBBONS, GOODMAN, GROVE, HARKINS, A. HARRIS,
HENNESSEY, KILLION, KIM, KIRKLAND, LONGIETTI, MACKENZIE,
MAHONEY, MAJOR, MARSICO, MATZIE, McNEILL, MILLARD, NEILSON,
O'BRIEN, O'NEILL, PASHINSKI, PAYNE, READSHAW, ROSS, ROZZI,
SCHREIBER, SIMS, SONNEY, STAATS, THOMAS, TOEPEL, TOOIL,
VEREB, WHEELAND AND YOUNGBLOOD, MARCH 24, 2016

INTRODUCED AS NONCONTROVERSIAL RESOLUTION UNDER RULE 35,
MARCH 24, 2016

A RESOLUTION

1 Designating the month of May 2016 as "Mental Health Awareness
2 Month" in Pennsylvania.

3 WHEREAS, Mental illnesses are biologically based brain
4 disorders that cannot be overcome through willpower and are not
5 related to a person's character or intelligence; and

6 WHEREAS, Mental health problems can affect individuals of any
7 race, religion, economic status or age; and

8 WHEREAS, Mental illnesses usually strike individuals in the
9 prime of their lives, often during adolescence and young
10 adulthood; and

11 WHEREAS, In 2014, 2.8 million adolescents 12 to 17 years of
12 age experienced a major depressive episode (MDE); and

13 WHEREAS, Individuals are defined as having an MDE if they
14 experience a depressed mood or loss of interest in daily

1 activities and have at least some additional symptoms, such as
2 problems with sleep, eating, energy, concentration or self-worth
3 over a certain period of time; and

4 WHEREAS, In 2014, an estimated 43.6 million adults in the
5 United States had a mental illness that included a mental,
6 behavioral or emotional disorder; and

7 WHEREAS, Individuals with mental illness have the same needs
8 and are guaranteed the same rights as all Americans, but they
9 experience discrimination in education, employment and housing;
10 and

11 WHEREAS, Mental health is critical to the overall well-being
12 of individuals, families, communities and businesses; and

13 WHEREAS, Proper identification and treatment of mental
14 illnesses, including support, are proven to be effective and are
15 vitally important to assist individuals in leading full,
16 productive lives; therefore be it

17 RESOLVED, That the House of Representatives designate the
18 month of May 2016 as "Mental Health Awareness Month" in
19 Pennsylvania; and be it further

20 RESOLVED, That all citizens, government agencies, public and
21 private institutions, businesses and schools commit to increase
22 awareness and understanding of mental illnesses.