
THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF PENNSYLVANIA

HOUSE RESOLUTION

No. 467 Session of
2019

INTRODUCED BY DELOZIER, KAUFFMAN, BIZZARRO, BOBACK, BROWN,
CALTAGIRONE, CONKLIN, SCHLEGEL CULVER, DeLUCA, DiGIROLAMO,
DONATUCCI, ECKER, FRANKEL, FREEMAN, HARRIS, HEFFLEY,
HICKERNELL, HILL-EVANS, HOWARD, IRVIN, ISAACSON,
M. K. KELLER, KIM, KINSEY, KORTZ, KULIK, LONGIETTI,
MACKENZIE, McCLINTON, MILLARD, MOUL, MURT, NEILSON, NELSON,
OBERLANDER, PASHINSKI, PICKETT, READSHAW, ROTHMAN, ROZZI,
SAPPEY, SAYLOR, SCHLOSSBERG, SCHMITT, SCHWEYER, SHUSTERMAN,
SONNEY, STAATS, THOMAS, TOEPEL, YOUNGBLOOD AND ZABEL,
SEPTEMBER 12, 2019

REFERRED TO COMMITTEE ON JUDICIARY, SEPTEMBER 12, 2019

A RESOLUTION

1 Recognizing the month of October 2019 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 individuals from all
10 racial, ethnic, religious, educational, social and economic
11 backgrounds and takes many forms; and

12 WHEREAS, Assault, harassment, threats, vandalism,
13 trespassing, burglary, theft and stalking may occur; and

14 WHEREAS, Abusive behaviors often escalate, causing physical

1 and emotional trauma, anxiety, stress, sleep deprivation, loss
2 of confidence, fear and, in some cases, injury and death by
3 suicide or homicide; and

4 WHEREAS, Domestic violence is one of the most chronically
5 underreported crimes; and

6 WHEREAS, There are many barriers to detecting domestic
7 violence; and

8 WHEREAS, An estimated 1 in 4 women and 1 in 9 men will
9 experience domestic violence during their lifetime; and

10 WHEREAS, An attempted or completed rape is experienced by 1
11 in 6 women and 1 in 33 men; and

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

15 WHEREAS, Perpetrators of intimate partner violence also abuse
16 children in the home 30% to 60% of the time; and

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

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

22 WHEREAS, Less than 35% of victims who report an injury from
23 intimate partner violence seek medical treatment following the
24 injury; and

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

28 WHEREAS, Collectively, victims of domestic violence lose
29 almost 8 million days of paid work annually; and

30 WHEREAS, Businesses forfeit approximately \$100 million in

1 lost wages, sick leave, absenteeism and nonproductivity
2 annually; and

3 WHEREAS, An estimated 20% of those who experience intimate
4 partner violence obtain protection from abuse orders; and

5 WHEREAS, Each year, domestic violence programs in this
6 Commonwealth provide services to approximately 95,000 victims of
7 domestic violence; and

8 WHEREAS, To increase victim safety, authorities must
9 carefully follow screening, reporting, documentation and
10 referral requirements; and

11 WHEREAS, At-risk individuals and families need education
12 relating to their legal rights, judicial proceedings, advocacy,
13 counseling and support services, shelter care and crisis
14 intervention; therefore be it

15 RESOLVED, That the House of Representatives recognize the
16 month of October 2019 as "Domestic Violence Awareness Month" in
17 Pennsylvania.