
THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF PENNSYLVANIA

HOUSE RESOLUTION

No. 847 Session of
2020

INTRODUCED BY SAPPEY, HILL-EVANS, SHUSTERMAN, THOMAS, BIZZARRO,
KORTZ, DONATUCCI, ULLMAN, YOUNGBLOOD, BURNS, T. DAVIS,
FREEMAN, SCHLOSSBERG, KIM, LONGIETTI, MURT, SANCHEZ, NEILSON,
HANBIDGE, CONKLIN, READSHAW, ZIMMERMAN, GAINEY, O'MARA,
HOWARD AND ROEBUCK, APRIL 17, 2020

REFERRED TO COMMITTEE ON HUMAN SERVICES, APRIL 17, 2020

A RESOLUTION

1 Designating the week of May 3 through 9, 2020, as "Higher
2 Education Mental Health Awareness Week" in Pennsylvania.

3 WHEREAS, An increasing number of college students are
4 diagnosed with, or receive treatment for, a mental health
5 condition; and

6 WHEREAS, Half of all college students rate their mental
7 health as below average or poor and 30% of college students
8 report that they have problems with school work due to a mental
9 health issue; and

10 WHEREAS, A survey of 400 college counseling center directors
11 found that 95% of the directors believe that the number of
12 college students with significant psychological problems is a
13 growing concern; and

14 WHEREAS, Eight out of ten college students report feeling
15 stress on a daily basis; and

16 WHEREAS, The American College Health Association conducted a

1 nationwide assessment and found that, in the past year, three
2 out of five college students experienced overwhelming anxiety
3 and two out of five college students were too depressed to
4 function; and

5 WHEREAS, Seventy-five percent of college students who suffer
6 from depression do not seek help for their mental health issues;
7 and

8 WHEREAS, According to the National Alliance on Mental
9 Illness, one out of ten college students has made a plan for
10 suicide, and suicide is the second leading cause of death among
11 college students; and

12 WHEREAS, College should be a time of growth, learning and
13 exploration, where students feel safe and are enthusiastic about
14 their future, not a time of immense stress and anxiety; and

15 WHEREAS, "Mental Health Awareness Month" has been observed in
16 the month of May since 1949; therefore be it

17 RESOLVED, That the House of Representatives designate the
18 week of May 3 through 9, 2020, as "Higher Education Mental
19 Health Awareness Week" in Pennsylvania; and be it further

20 RESOLVED, That the House of Representatives, in support of
21 "Higher Education Mental Health Awareness Week," call on the
22 residents of this Commonwealth to raise awareness in their
23 communities about mental health issues on college campuses and
24 provide support to the college students in their lives.