
THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF PENNSYLVANIA

HOUSE RESOLUTION

No. 1031 Session of
2020

INTRODUCED BY DELOZIER, BARRAR, BOBACK, BROWN, BURNS, CIRESI,
SCHLEGEL CULVER, A. DAVIS, T. DAVIS, DEASY, DRISCOLL,
FREEMAN, GALLOWAY, GLEIM, GREEN, HEFFLEY, HENNESSEY, HILL-
EVANS, HOHENSTEIN, HOWARD, ISAACSON, JAMES, JONES,
M. K. KELLER, KINSEY, KORTZ, KULIK, LONGIETTI, MACKENZIE,
McCLINTON, McNEILL, MEHAFFIE, MENTZER, MILLARD, MOUL, MURT,
NEILSON, OBERLANDER, PICKETT, POLINCHOCK, READSHAW, ROTHMAN,
ROZZI, RYAN, SANCHEZ, SAPPEY, SCHLOSSBERG, SCHMITT, STAATS,
STEPHENS, STRUZZI, THOMAS, TOEPEL AND YOUNGBLOOD,
SEPTEMBER 29, 2020

INTRODUCED AS NONCONTROVERSIAL RESOLUTION UNDER RULE 35,
SEPTEMBER 29, 2020

A RESOLUTION

1 Recognizing the month of October 2020 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

1 WHEREAS, Abusive behaviors often escalate, causing physical
2 and emotional trauma, anxiety, stress, sleep deprivation, loss
3 of confidence, fear and, in some cases, injury and death by
4 suicide or homicide; and

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

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

9 WHEREAS, An estimated 1 in 4 women and 1 in 10 men will
10 experience domestic violence during their lifetime; and

11 WHEREAS, An attempted or completed rape is experienced by 1
12 in 5 women and 1 in 40 men; and

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

1 WHEREAS, Businesses forfeit approximately \$100 million in
2 lost wages, sick leave, absenteeism and nonproductivity
3 annually; and

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

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

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

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

16 RESOLVED, That the House of Representatives recognize the
17 month of October 2020 as "Domestic Violence Awareness Month" in
18 Pennsylvania.