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THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF PENNSYLVANIA

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SENATE RESOLUTION

No. 165 Session of  
2021

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INTRODUCED BY BARTOLOTTA, KEARNEY, BROOKS, FONTANA, J. WARD,  
HUGHES, CAPPELLETTI, SCAVELLO, COSTA, MENSCH, COMITTA,  
GORDNER, STEFANO, MARTIN, BROWNE, SCHWANK, MUTH, KANE, STREET  
AND YUDICHAK, SEPTEMBER 13, 2021

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REFERRED TO RULES AND EXECUTIVE NOMINATIONS, SEPTEMBER 13, 2021

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A RESOLUTION

1 Recognizing the month of September 2021 as "National Recovery  
2 Month" in Pennsylvania.

3 WHEREAS, Recovery from substance use disorders, including co-  
4 occurring disorders, is an essential part of health and one's  
5 overall wellness; and

6 WHEREAS, Treatment and recovery services for substance use  
7 disorders and co-occurring disorders is effective and people can  
8 and do recover in our area and around the nation; and

9 WHEREAS, Addressing and overcoming substance use disorders  
10 and co-occurring disorders is essential to achieving a healthy  
11 lifestyle, both physically and emotionally; and

12 WHEREAS, We must encourage relatives and friends of people  
13 with substance use disorders and co-occurring disorders to  
14 implement preventive measures, recognize the signs of a problem  
15 and encourage those in need of help to seek appropriate  
16 treatment and recovery support services; and

17 WHEREAS, According to the 2019 National Survey on Drug Use

1 and Health and the National Survey of Substance Abuse Treatment  
2 Services, it is estimated that 758,000 Pennsylvanians are living  
3 with a substance use disorder; and

4 WHEREAS, The number of people receiving treatment for a  
5 substance use disorder has increased by 12% over the last five  
6 years; and

7 WHEREAS, The COVID-19 pandemic has amplified the unique  
8 challenges for those with substance use disorders and in  
9 recovery, with the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention  
10 reporting an increase in overdose deaths by 16% in 2020; and

11 WHEREAS, In 2020, there were nearly 5,200 overdose deaths in  
12 Pennsylvania; and

13 WHEREAS, For 30 years, the states and organizations  
14 nationwide have observed September as "National Recovery Month"  
15 to bring awareness to substance use disorders and co-occurring  
16 disorders; and

17 WHEREAS, This year's "National Recovery Month" theme is  
18 "Recovery is For Everyone: Every Person, Every Family, Every  
19 Community"; and

20 WHEREAS, To help more people achieve and sustain recovery,  
21 the Department of Health and Human Services, the Substance Abuse  
22 and Mental Health Services Administration and the Commonwealth  
23 invite all residents of this Commonwealth to participate in  
24 "National Recovery Month"; therefore be it

25 RESOLVED, That the Senate recognize the month of September  
26 2021 as "National Recovery Month" in Pennsylvania; and be it  
27 further

28 RESOLVED, That all residents of this Commonwealth be urged to  
29 observe this month with appropriate programs, activities and  
30 ceremonies.