
THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF PENNSYLVANIA

SENATE RESOLUTION

No. 316 Session of
2022

INTRODUCED BY KANE, BARTOLOTTA, TARTAGLIONE, HUGHES, KEARNEY,
CAPPELLETTI, COMMITTA, COLLETT, MARTIN, FONTANA, BREWSTER,
YUDICHAK AND COSTA, JUNE 20, 2022

REFERRED TO RULES AND EXECUTIVE NOMINATIONS, JUNE 20, 2022

A RESOLUTION

1 Designating the week of July 25 through 29, 2022, as
2 "Construction Opioid Awareness Week" in Pennsylvania.

3 WHEREAS, Opioids are deadly and are responsible for claiming
4 approximately 500,000 American lives between 1999 and 2019; and

5 WHEREAS, Last year alone, drug overdose deaths in the United
6 States reached its highest point ever recorded with more than
7 100,000 deaths over 12 months; and

8 WHEREAS, Drug overdose deaths have increased nearly 50% since
9 the start of the COVID-19 pandemic; and

10 WHEREAS, Pennsylvanians are still recovering from the COVID-
11 19 pandemic, but now is not the time to forget about the opioid
12 epidemic; and

13 WHEREAS, The Governor declared the epidemic of heroin and
14 opioid addiction to be a Statewide disaster emergency; and

15 WHEREAS, The construction industry, which involves physically
16 demanding labor and employs an aging workforce, has been
17 particularly vulnerable to the opioid epidemic; and

1 WHEREAS, Drug abuse issues in the construction industry
2 endanger not only the individual worker, but the companies they
3 work for, other workers on the jobsite and the general public
4 near jobsites; and

5 WHEREAS, The summer months are the busiest for the
6 construction industry and are an ideal time for promoting
7 awareness of the dangers of opioid abuse; and

8 WHEREAS, Many construction organizations have been utilizing
9 services and resources from the National Safety Council to
10 create an educational toolbox for members of the construction
11 industry, including materials to facilitate discussions with
12 workers about the dangers of opioids and prescription drug
13 abuse, and "Warn Me" stickers to place on workers' insurance
14 cards in the hopes of encouraging health care providers to
15 discuss opioid issues with those workers; and

16 WHEREAS, The following groups plan to promote the awareness
17 and dangers of opioids and prescription drug abuse within the
18 construction industry during the last full week in the month of
19 July:

20 (1) Keystone Contractors Association;

21 (2) National Safety Council;

22 (3) National Utility Contractors Association -
23 Pennsylvania Chapter;

24 (4) Pennsylvania Building and Construction Trades
25 Council;

26 (5) Eastern Atlantic States Regional Council of
27 Carpenters;

28 (6) Laborers International Union of North America -
29 Pennsylvania Council;

30 (7) Sheet Metal Contractors and Air Conditioning

1 Contractors National Association - Pennsylvania Chapter;

2 (8) Master Builders' Association of Western
3 Pennsylvania;

4 (9) National Electrical Contractors Association of
5 Western Pennsylvania;

6 (10) Mechanical Contractors Association of America -
7 Pennsylvania Chapters;

8 (11) Pennsylvania Builders Exchange;

9 (12) Architectural Glass and Metal Association;

10 (13) Ironworker Employers Association of Western
11 Pennsylvania;

12 (14) American Subcontractors Association of Central
13 Pennsylvania; and

14 (15) General Building Contractors Association;

15 therefore be it

16 RESOLVED, That the Senate designate the week of July 25
17 through 29, 2022, as "Construction Opioid Awareness Week" in
18 Pennsylvania; and be it further

19 RESOLVED, That the construction industry in Pennsylvania be
20 encouraged to promote awareness of the dangers of opioids and
21 prescription drug abuse with workers in the industry and
22 facilitate discussions and events such as "Drug Take Back"
23 events to combat the opioid and prescription drug abuse epidemic
24 in Pennsylvania's construction industry.