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THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF PENNSYLVANIA

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HOUSE RESOLUTION

No. 480 Session of  
2024

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INTRODUCED BY T. JONES, CURRY, HANBIDGE, STAMBAUGH, GIRAL, ROWE,  
ZIMMERMAN, MARCELL, KINSEY, PROBST, SHUSTERMAN AND O'MARA,  
JUNE 20, 2024

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REFERRED TO COMMITTEE ON HEALTH, JUNE 20, 2024

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A RESOLUTION

1 Designating June 23, 2024, as "Widows' and Widowers' Day" in  
2 Pennsylvania.

3 WHEREAS, The American Community Survey, an annual  
4 demographics survey conducted by the United States Census  
5 Bureau, estimates that in 2022, the most recent year data is  
6 available, 6.3% of this Commonwealth's population, or  
7 approximately 681,803 individuals, were widowed; and

8 WHEREAS, Losing a spouse can be one of the most difficult  
9 things a person experiences; and

10 WHEREAS, Caring for widows and widowers is an important  
11 teaching for several of the world's religions; and

12 WHEREAS, Caring for widows and widowers can include  
13 encouraging them to talk to a qualified counselor, maintain  
14 their self-care and reach out to family and friends; and

15 WHEREAS, The Federal Government has taken steps toward caring  
16 for widows and widowers, including survivor benefits through the  
17 Social Security program; and

1       WHEREAS, This Commonwealth has taken steps toward caring for  
2 widows and widowers, including the Property Tax/Rent Rebate  
3 Program; and

4       WHEREAS, June 23 is recognized globally as "International  
5 Widows' Day"; therefore be it

6       RESOLVED, That the House of Representatives designate June  
7 23, 2024, as "Widows' and Widowers' Day" in Pennsylvania; and be  
8 it further

9       RESOLVED, That the House of Representatives express its  
10 condolences to the widows and widowers of this Commonwealth; and  
11 be it further

12       RESOLVED, That the House of Representatives encourage the  
13 widows and widowers of this Commonwealth to seek support as they  
14 heal from their losses, including seeking support, counseling  
15 and comfort offered by family and friends.