
THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF PENNSYLVANIA

HOUSE RESOLUTION

No. 253 Session of
2013

INTRODUCED BY PARKER, BROWNLEE, SCHLOSSBERG, K. BOYLE, FLECK,
P. DALEY, BISHOP, YOUNGBLOOD, COHEN, V. BROWN, SWANGER,
KINSEY, MOLCHANY, O'BRIEN, CRUZ, CALTAGIRONE, FREEMAN,
McGEEHAN, THOMAS, ROEBUCK, FRANKEL, CLYMER, DeLUCA,
SANTARSIERO, GOODMAN, D. COSTA AND GINGRICH, APRIL 17, 2013

REFERRED TO COMMITTEE ON JUDICIARY, APRIL 17, 2013

A RESOLUTION

1 Urging all groups in Pennsylvania involved in the effort to stop
2 domestic violence to implement the Violence Against Women
3 Act's inclusion mandate.

4 WHEREAS, Domestic violence is a significant problem that
5 affects individuals in all segments of our society; and

6 WHEREAS, The National Intimate Partner and Sexual Violence
7 Survey found that more than 5 million men and nearly 5 million
8 women still experience some type of violence at the hands of
9 their partners every year; and

10 WHEREAS, Discriminatory practices have been documented
11 against male, lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgender and African-
12 American victims of domestic violence, causing these groups to
13 be underserved victim populations, and the discriminators'
14 practices on underserved victim populations violate the
15 principle of equal treatment under the law; and

16 WHEREAS, The Violence Against Women Act (VAWA), approved by a
17 bipartisan vote and signed into law on March 7, 2013, includes

1 an inclusion mandate that bans discrimination on the basis of
2 "race, color, religion, national origin, sex, gender identity,
3 sexual orientation, or disability"; and

4 WHEREAS, VAWA's inclusion mandate applies to domestic
5 violence shelters, domestic violence coalitions, law enforcement
6 officers, prosecutors, judges and other groups involved in the
7 effort to stop domestic violence; therefore be it

8 RESOLVED, That the House of Representatives urge groups in
9 Pennsylvania involved in the effort to stop domestic violence to
10 review their policies, procedures, practices and accommodations
11 to implement VAWA's inclusion mandate; and be it further

12 RESOLVED, That the House of Representatives urge groups in
13 Pennsylvania involved in the effort to stop domestic violence to
14 avail themselves of existing resources, research and services to
15 reach underserved victim populations and to assure that equal
16 facilities, services and support are fully available to all
17 victims.