
THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF PENNSYLVANIA

HOUSE RESOLUTION

No. 446 Session of
2017

INTRODUCED BY MURT, BIZZARRO, BOBACK, R. BROWN, V. BROWN, BURNS, CALTAGIRONE, CAUSER, CHARLTON, CORR, D. COSTA, SCHLEGEL, CULVER, DAVIDSON, DAVIS, DEAN, DEASY, DeLISSIO, DeLUCA, DiGIROLAMO, DONATUCCI, DRISCOLL, DUSH, EVERETT, GILLEN, HARKINS, HENNESSEY, KAVULICH, KINSEY, KORTZ, LONGIETTI, MACKENZIE, MARSICO, McNEILL, MILLARD, NEILSON, O'NEILL, PASHINSKI, ROZZI, RYAN, SAINATO, SCHLOSSBERG, SCHWEYER, SIMS, SONNEY, TOOHIL, WARREN, WATSON AND WHEELAND, AUGUST 15, 2017

INTRODUCED AS NONCONTROVERSIAL RESOLUTION UNDER RULE 35,
AUGUST 15, 2017

A RESOLUTION

1 Recognizing the week of October 1 through 7, 2017, as "Mental
2 Health Awareness Week" in Pennsylvania.

3 WHEREAS, Mental health is part of an individual's overall
4 health; and

5 WHEREAS, One in four adults experience a mental health
6 problem in any given year; and

7 WHEREAS, Approximately one-half of individuals who have a
8 chronic mental illness develop signs by 14 years of age; and

9 WHEREAS, Approximately three-quarters of individuals who have
10 a chronic mental illness develop signs by 24 years of age; and

11 WHEREAS, Suicide is the 10th leading cause of death in the
12 United States and the second leading cause of death among young
13 adults; and

14 WHEREAS, Ninety percent of people who die by suicide have an

1 underlying mental illness; and

2 WHEREAS, Decades-long delays can occur between the first
3 appearance of symptoms of a mental illness and the time when an
4 individual seeks treatment; and

5 WHEREAS, Early identification and treatment can make a
6 difference in successful management of mental illness and
7 recovery; and

8 WHEREAS, It is important to maintain mental health and learn
9 the symptoms of mental illness in order to seek treatment when
10 needed; and

11 WHEREAS, Every individual and each community in this
12 Commonwealth can make a difference in ending the silence and
13 stigma that has long surrounded mental illness and discouraged
14 people from seeking treatment; and

15 WHEREAS, Public education and civic activities can further
16 promote mental health awareness and improve the lives of
17 individuals and families affected by mental illness; therefore
18 be it

19 RESOLVED, That the House of Representatives recognize the
20 week of October 1 through 7, 2017, as "Mental Health Awareness
21 Week" in Pennsylvania to shine a light on mental illness and to
22 fight stigma, provide support, educate the public and advocate
23 for equal care; and be it further

24 RESOLVED, That all citizens, businesses, schools and
25 community organizations be encouraged to take the Stigmafree
26 Pledge at www.nami.org/stigmafree in conjunction with this
27 observance.