
THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF PENNSYLVANIA

SENATE RESOLUTION

No. 238 Session of
2024

INTRODUCED BY SANTARSIERO, KEARNEY, CULVER, TARTAGLIONE, HUGHES,
FONTANA, HAYWOOD, SCHWANK, PHILLIPS-HILL, KANE, CAPPELLETTI,
BOSCOLA, STREET AND COSTA, FEBRUARY 12, 2024

REFERRED TO RULES AND EXECUTIVE NOMINATIONS, FEBRUARY 12, 2024

A RESOLUTION

1 Designating the week of February 26 through March 3, 2024, as
2 "Eating Disorders Awareness Week" in Pennsylvania.

3 WHEREAS, The goal of "Eating Disorders Awareness Week" is to
4 shine a spotlight on eating disorders by educating the public,
5 spreading a message of hope and putting lifesaving resources
6 into the hands of those in need; and

7 WHEREAS, Eating disorders are serious conditions that are
8 potentially life threatening and have a great impact on an
9 individual's physical and emotional health; and

10 WHEREAS, Too often, signs and symptoms of eating disorders
11 are overlooked, and many individuals, families and communities
12 are unaware of the devastating mental and physical consequences
13 of eating disorders, as well as the pressures, attitudes and
14 behaviors which shape them; and

15 WHEREAS, In the United States, 20 million women and 10
16 million men suffer from a clinically significant eating disorder
17 at some point in their life; and

1 WHEREAS, Clinically significant eating disorders affect
2 people across all backgrounds and include anorexia nervosa,
3 bulimia nervosa and binge eating disorders; and

4 WHEREAS, "Eating Disorders Awareness Week" is a collaborative
5 effort consisting of eating disorder organizations, eating
6 disorder professionals, health care providers, educators,
7 students, social workers, volunteers and individuals committed
8 to raising awareness of the dangers surrounding eating disorders
9 and the need for early intervention and treatment access; and

10 WHEREAS, Eating disorders are serious illnesses, not
11 lifestyle choices, and have the second highest mortality rate
12 for any mental illness; and

13 WHEREAS, Many cases of eating disorders go undetected, and
14 less than one-third of young people with an eating disorder will
15 receive proper treatment; and

16 WHEREAS, Eating disorder experts have found that prompt
17 intensive treatment significantly improves the chances of
18 recovery; and

19 WHEREAS, It is important for educators, medical providers,
20 parents and community members to be aware of the warning signs
21 and symptoms of eating disorders; and

22 WHEREAS, "Eating Disorders Awareness Week" encourages people
23 to share their stories and experiences with disordered eating
24 and body image struggles and highlight the importance of
25 screenings for early detection and interventions; and

26 WHEREAS, "Eating Disorders Awareness Week" also dispels myths
27 and presents eating disorders as a public health issue that
28 indiscriminately affects many people, without regard for age,
29 gender, ethnicity, size or background; and

30 WHEREAS, The Senate recognizes the vital role that "Eating

1 Disorders Awareness Week" serves in increasing public and media
2 attention regarding the seriousness of eating disorders, the
3 biological and environmental causes of eating disorders and how
4 to help individuals who are struggling with these debilitating
5 diseases; therefore be it

6 RESOLVED, That the Senate designate the week of February 26
7 through March 3, 2024, as "Eating Disorders Awareness Week" in
8 Pennsylvania.