
THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF PENNSYLVANIA

SENATE RESOLUTION

No. 45 Session of
2017

INTRODUCED BY BROWNE, DINNIMAN, SABATINA, EICHELBERGER,
GREENLEAF, AUMENT, LEACH, RESCHENTHALER, COSTA, SCAVELLO,
RAFFERTY, FONTANA, TARTAGLIONE, KILLION, BREWSTER, BOSCOLA,
VULAKOVICH AND FARNESE, MARCH 21, 2017

INTRODUCED AND ADOPTED, MARCH 21, 2017

A RESOLUTION

1 Recognizing the week of February 26 through March 4, 2017, as
2 "Eating Disorders Awareness Week" in Pennsylvania in
3 conjunction with the observance of "National Eating Disorders
4 Awareness Week."

5 WHEREAS, The 2017 theme of "National Eating Disorders
6 Awareness Week" is "It's Time to Talk About It," which focuses
7 on dispelling myths and presenting facts about eating disorders
8 and encouraging everyone to get screened; and

9 WHEREAS, Eating disorders are serious conditions that are
10 potentially life threatening and have a great impact on both the
11 physical and emotional health of individuals; and

12 WHEREAS, Signs and symptoms of eating disorders are often
13 overlooked, and many individuals, families and communities are
14 unaware of the devastating mental and physical consequences of
15 eating disorders as well as the pressures, attitudes and
16 behaviors that shape them; and

17 WHEREAS, In the United States, 20 million women and 10
18 million men suffer from clinically significant eating disorders

1 at some time in their lives; and

2 WHEREAS, These disorders affect people across all backgrounds
3 and include anorexia nervosa, bulimia nervosa and binge eating
4 disorders; and

5 WHEREAS, The National Eating Disorders Association strives to
6 address the many misconceptions regarding eating disorders and
7 highlight the availability of resources for treatment and
8 support; and

9 WHEREAS, "National Eating Disorders Awareness Week" is a
10 collaborative effort involving primarily volunteers, including
11 eating disorder professionals, health care providers, students,
12 educators, social workers and individuals committed to raising
13 awareness of the dangers surrounding eating disorders and the
14 need for early intervention and treatment access; and

15 WHEREAS, Eating disorders usually appear in adolescence and
16 are associated with substantial psychological problems,
17 including depression, substance abuse and suicide; and

18 WHEREAS, Eating disorders are serious illnesses, not
19 lifestyle choices; and

20 WHEREAS, Anorexia has the highest mortality rate of any
21 mental illness; and

22 WHEREAS, Many cases of eating disorders go undetected, and
23 less than one-third of youths with eating disorders will receive
24 treatment; and

25 WHEREAS, Eating disorder experts have found that prompt,
26 intensive treatment significantly improves the chances of
27 recovery; and

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

1 WHEREAS, "National Eating Disorders Awareness Week"
2 highlights the importance of screenings for the early detection
3 and intervention of eating disorders, dispels myths and presents
4 eating disorders as a public health issue with close connections
5 to substance abuse, trauma, obesity and other mental health
6 conditions, such as depression, anxiety and obsessive-compulsive
7 disorder; and

8 WHEREAS, The Senate recognizes the vital importance of
9 "National Eating Disorders Awareness Week" in promoting public
10 and media attention to the seriousness of eating disorders and
11 providing education on the biological and environmental causes
12 of eating disorders and how to help individuals who are
13 struggling with these debilitating conditions; therefore be it

14 RESOLVED, That the Senate recognize the week of February 26
15 through March 4, 2017, as "Eating Disorders Awareness Week" in
16 Pennsylvania in conjunction with the observance of "National
17 Eating Disorders Awareness Week."