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THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF PENNSYLVANIA

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SENATE RESOLUTION

No. 50 Session of  
2023

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INTRODUCED BY SANTARSIERO, KEARNEY, CAPPELLETTI, TARTAGLIONE,  
HUGHES, SCHWANK, PHILLIPS-HILL, COLEMAN, COMITTA AND HAYWOOD,  
MARCH 14, 2023

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REFERRED TO RULES AND EXECUTIVE NOMINATIONS, MARCH 14, 2023

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A RESOLUTION

1 Designating the week of February 27 through March 5, 2023, 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 life-saving 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, The 2023 theme of "Eating Disorders Awareness Week"  
5 is "It's Time for Change," which focuses on the message that now  
6 is the time for more equity, inclusion, access, outreach, early  
7 intervention, education, representation, advocacy and awareness;  
8 and

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

15       WHEREAS, Eating disorders are serious illnesses, not  
16 lifestyle choices, and have the second highest mortality rate  
17 for any mental illness; and

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

21       WHEREAS, Eating disorder experts have found that prompt  
22 intensive treatment significantly improves the chances of  
23 recovery; and

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

27       WHEREAS, "Eating Disorders Awareness Week" encourages people  
28 to share their stories and experiences with disordered eating  
29 and body image struggles and highlight the importance of  
30 screenings for early detection and interventions; and

1       WHEREAS, "Eating Disorders Awareness Week" also dispels myths  
2 and present eating disorders as a public health issue that  
3 indiscriminately affects many people, without regard for age,  
4 gender, ethnicity, size or background; and

5       WHEREAS, The Senate recognizes the vital role that "Eating  
6 Disorders Awareness Week" serves in increasing public and media  
7 attention regarding the seriousness of eating disorders, the  
8 biological and environmental causes of eating disorders and how  
9 to help individuals who are struggling with these debilitating  
10 diseases; therefore be it

11       RESOLVED, That the Senate designate the week of February 27  
12 through March 5, 2023, as "Eating Disorders Awareness Week" in  
13 Pennsylvania.