
THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF PENNSYLVANIA

SENATE RESOLUTION

No. 71 Session of
2023

INTRODUCED BY TARTAGLIONE, BARTOLOTTA, BOSCOLA, CAPPELLETTI,
COLLETT, COMMITTA, MUTH, SCHWANK, L. WILLIAMS, HUGHES,
KEARNEY, HAYWOOD, SAVAL, FONTANA, BROWN, KANE, SANTARSIERO
AND BREWSTER, MARCH 15, 2023

REFERRED TO RULES AND EXECUTIVE NOMINATIONS, MARCH 15, 2023

A RESOLUTION

1 Designating the month of April 2023 as "Sexual Assault Awareness
2 Month" in Pennsylvania.

3 WHEREAS, April is nationally recognized as "Sexual Assault
4 Awareness Month" to call attention to the fact that sexual
5 violence is widespread and impacts every community; and

6 WHEREAS, April 2023 marks the 22nd anniversary of the
7 designation of "Sexual Assault Awareness Month"; and

8 WHEREAS, Rape, sexual assault and sexual harassment have a
9 deep physical and emotional trauma on those who have experienced
10 it; and

11 WHEREAS, Rape in the United States occurs more frequently
12 than the public realizes, as 1 in 5 women and 1 in 67 men have
13 been raped in the United States; and

14 WHEREAS, On postsecondary campuses, 1 in 5 women and 1 in 16
15 men are sexually assaulted at some point in their educational
16 career; and

17 WHEREAS, Young people experience heightened rates of child

1 sexual abuse as one in six boys and one in four girls experience
2 sexual assault before 18 years of age; and

3 WHEREAS, Lesbian and bisexual women may be up to three times
4 as likely as heterosexual women to report having been sexually
5 assaulted during their lifetime; and

6 WHEREAS, Gay men may be up to 15 times as likely as
7 heterosexual men to report having been sexually assaulted during
8 their lifetime; and

9 WHEREAS, More than 90% of individuals with a developmental
10 delay or disability will be sexually assaulted at least once in
11 their lifetime; and

12 WHEREAS, Twenty-seven percent of all sexual assault
13 victimizations for adults and children end in arrest; and

14 WHEREAS, Communities can support survivors by believing their
15 stories, showing respect and championing their individual
16 support networks; and

17 WHEREAS, Individuals speaking out against inappropriate
18 jokes, offensive gestures, harmful attitudes and unwanted
19 actions make a positive impact toward ending sexual harassment,
20 abuse and assault; and

21 WHEREAS, Consent and boundaries can be violated online in a
22 number of ways; and

23 WHEREAS, Individuals can work together to make their
24 communities safer by providing prevention education and
25 increasing public awareness to avoid future harm from sexual
26 violence; therefore be it

27 RESOLVED, That the Senate designate the month of April 2023
28 as "Sexual Assault Awareness Month" in Pennsylvania; and be it
29 further

30 RESOLVED, That the Senate recognize the 22nd anniversary of

1 "Sexual Assault Awareness Month" to empower more survivors and
2 their loved ones on their journey to help, hope and heal; and be
3 it further

4 RESOLVED, That the Senate encourage communities to understand
5 their role in ending sexual violence in Pennsylvania and the
6 United States; and be it further

7 RESOLVED, That the Senate encourage communities to commit to
8 make a difference to ensure that online platforms are safe and
9 respectful for everyone by practicing consent, keeping kids safe
10 and supporting survivors.