

---

THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF PENNSYLVANIA

---

HOUSE RESOLUTION

No. 90 Session of  
2023

---

INTRODUCED BY SCHLOSSBERG, BOROWSKI, BRENNAN, CEPEDA-FREYTIZ,  
CONKLIN, DEASY, DELLOSO, FLICK, FREEMAN, HARRIS, HILL-EVANS,  
KAZEEM, KENYATTA, KHAN, KINSEY, R. MACKENZIE, MADDEN,  
MALAGARI, NEILSON, O'MARA, PARKER, PICKETT, ROZZI, SAMUELSON,  
SANCHEZ, SHUSTERMAN, STRUZZI, TOMLINSON AND VENKAT,  
APRIL 27, 2023

---

REFERRED TO COMMITTEE ON HUMAN SERVICES, APRIL 27, 2023

---

A RESOLUTION

1 Recognizing the month of May 2023 as "Mental Health Awareness  
2 Month" in Pennsylvania.

3 WHEREAS, Mental health is critical to the overall well-being  
4 of individuals, families, communities and businesses; and

5 WHEREAS, Mental illnesses are biologically based brain  
6 disorders that cannot be overcome through willpower and are not  
7 related to an individual's character or intelligence; and

8 WHEREAS, Mental health issues can affect individuals of any  
9 race, religion, economic status or age; and

10 WHEREAS, Mental illnesses usually strike individuals in the  
11 prime of their lives, often during adolescence and young  
12 adulthood; and

13 WHEREAS, Individuals with mental illness have the same needs  
14 and are guaranteed the same rights as all Americans; and

15 WHEREAS, Individuals with mental illness experience  
16 discrimination in education, employment and housing; and

1       WHEREAS, A lack of full and proper treatment for individuals  
2 with mental illness costs public and private employers hundreds  
3 of billions of dollars annually through absenteeism, turnover  
4 and low productivity; and

5       WHEREAS, In 2020, an estimated 17% of adolescents 12 to 17  
6 years of age experienced a major depressive episode (MDE); and

7       WHEREAS, Individuals are classified as having an MDE if they  
8 experience a depressed mood or loss of interest in daily  
9 activities and have additional symptoms, including problems with  
10 sleep, eating, energy, concentration or self-worth, over a  
11 certain period of time; and

12       WHEREAS, The National Institute of Mental Health estimates  
13 approximately 57 million adults in the United States have a  
14 mental illness that includes a mental, behavioral or emotional  
15 disorder; and

16       WHEREAS, Proper identification and treatment of mental  
17 illnesses, including support, are proven to be effective and are  
18 vitally important to assist individuals in leading full,  
19 productive lives; therefore be it

20       RESOLVED, That the House of Representatives recognize the  
21 month of May 2023 as "Mental Health Awareness Month" in  
22 Pennsylvania; and be it further

23       RESOLVED, That all government agencies, public and private  
24 institutions, businesses, schools and residents of this  
25 Commonwealth strive to increase awareness and understanding of  
26 mental illnesses and the need for appropriate and accessible  
27 services for individuals with mental illness throughout the  
28 communities of this Commonwealth.