

THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF PENNSYLVANIA

# HOUSE RESOLUTION

No. 966 Session of 2020

INTRODUCED BY SHUSTERMAN, KINSEY, DAVIDSON, STEPHENS,  
YOUNGBLOOD, MURT, SCHWEYER, FREEMAN, GREEN, SAPPEY, READSHAW,  
GALLOWAY, HANBIDGE, KENYATTA, SCHLOSSBERG, ROZZI, SANCHEZ,  
DELLOSO, KORTZ, DeLUCA, BRADFORD, FRANKEL, CIRESI, MADDEN,  
MALAGARI, McCLINTON, GAINEY, KOSIEROWSKI, HOHENSTEIN AND  
OTTEN, AUGUST 7, 2020

REFERRED TO COMMITTEE ON JUDICIARY, AUGUST 7, 2020

## A RESOLUTION

1 Urging the Congress of the United States to include additional  
2 funding for victims of domestic violence in the next COVID-19  
3 related stimulus package.

4 WHEREAS, As of April 7, 2020, 306.3 million Americans, or  
5 94.5% of the population of the United States, have been affected  
6 by some form of stay-at-home order to help decrease the spread  
7 of COVID-19; and

8 WHEREAS, The various forms of stay-at-home orders include  
9 approximately 54 million K-12 students who are no longer able to  
10 attend school in person and millions of adults who are unable to  
11 work; and

12 WHEREAS, While these measures are necessary to reduce the  
13 impacts of the current pandemic, it has provided domestic  
14 abusers additional opportunities to further isolate victims and  
15 withhold financial resources or medical aid; and

16 WHEREAS, The National Domestic Violence Hotline has reported

1 an increase in the demand for victim service providers; and

2 WHEREAS, Rural areas around the United States and American  
3 Indian and Alaskan Native communities are experiencing the same  
4 uptick in individuals seeking shelter from domestic violence and  
5 have further limited resources to address the issue; and

6 WHEREAS, In response, a bipartisan group of 33 United States  
7 Senators have come together to call for additional spending on  
8 domestic violence-related programs in the next COVID-19 stimulus  
9 package; and

10 WHEREAS, Additional funding is vital to the successful  
11 operation of programs funded by the Family Violence Prevention  
12 and Services Act (FVPSA), the Centers for Disease Control and  
13 Prevention (CDC) and the Child Abuse Prevention and Treatment  
14 Act; and

15 WHEREAS, The protection of victims of domestic violence  
16 should be a priority during the current pandemic; therefore be  
17 it

18 RESOLVED, That the House of Representatives urge the Congress  
19 of the United States to ensure additional spending to support  
20 victims of domestic violence are made a priority in the next  
21 COVID-19 relief bill; and be it further

22 RESOLVED, That copies of this resolution be transmitted to  
23 the President of the United States, the presiding officers of  
24 each chamber of Congress and each member of Congress from  
25 Pennsylvania.