THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF PENNSYLVANIA

SENATE RESOLUTION

No. 154

Session of 2019

INTRODUCED BY BARTOLOTTA, LEACH, FONTANA, DINNIMAN, STREET, TARTAGLIONE, FARNESE, BROWNE, KEARNEY, HUGHES, BLAKE, AUMENT, BAKER, COSTA, J. WARD, HAYWOOD AND BREWSTER, JUNE 10, 2019

INTRODUCED AND ADOPTED, JUNE 10, 2019

A RESOLUTION

- Recognizing the month of June 2019 as "Reentry Month" in Pennsylvania.
- 3 WHEREAS, Reentry initiatives aim to positively change inmate
- 4 behavior starting at reception through release to community
- 5 supervision to reduce recidivism and victimization while
- 6 promoting public safety; and
- 7 WHEREAS, The Department of Corrections of the Commonwealth
- 8 releases more than 20,000 inmates per year to communities all
- 9 across Pennsylvania; and
- 10 WHEREAS, Approximately 40% of inmates released from the
- 11 Department of Corrections will be rearrested or reincarcerated
- 12 within one year of release from prison and 62% will be
- 13 rearrested or reincarcerated within three years of release from
- 14 prison; and
- 15 WHEREAS, The Commonwealth recognizes the importance of
- 16 establishing effective reentry strategies through collaboration
- 17 with State and county agencies, citizens, community service

- 1 providers and social service advocates to efficiently use and
- 2 streamline resources; and
- 3 WHEREAS, The Commonwealth offers multiple vocational
- 4 education programs at all State correctional institutions in an
- 5 effort to prepare inmates for the workforce upon release; and
- 6 WHEREAS, High recidivism rates carry heavy consequences for
- 7 the individuals, families and communities most directly
- 8 impacted; and
- 9 WHEREAS, It costs nearly 18 times more to keep a person in
- 10 prison for a year than under community supervision for a year;
- 11 and
- 12 WHEREAS, A consensus is building in this Commonwealth to
- 13 create better opportunities for returning citizens to fully
- 14 reintegrate into their communities; and
- 15 WHEREAS, Reentry advocates support the recognition of June as
- 16 "Reentry Month" in Pennsylvania, as a time to remind us that
- 17 returning residents should always be afforded the full rights of
- 18 a resident; therefore be it
- 19 RESOLVED, That the Senate recognize the month of June 2019 as
- 20 "Reentry Month" in Pennsylvania.