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THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF PENNSYLVANIA

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HOUSE RESOLUTION

No. 453 Session of  
2024

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INTRODUCED BY POWELL, HILL-EVANS, CONKLIN, McNEILL, SANCHEZ,  
DONAHUE, HANBIDGE, MARCELL, VENKAT, PROBST, MAYES, KINSEY,  
BURGOS, CURRY, GIRAL, MENTZER, KAZEEM, CIRESI, GALLAGHER,  
BELLMON, ZIMMERMAN, D. WILLIAMS, NEILSON, WAXMAN, KIM AND  
KHAN, MAY 29, 2024

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REFERRED TO COMMITTEE ON AGING AND OLDER ADULT SERVICES,  
MAY 29, 2024

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A RESOLUTION

1 Designating June 15, 2024, as "Elder Abuse Awareness Day" in  
2 Pennsylvania.

3 WHEREAS, Pennsylvania has the third largest population of  
4 elderly residents in the United States with nearly 2 million  
5 residents over 65 years of age; and

6 WHEREAS, Older Pennsylvanians should be recognized as a  
7 valuable resource to this Commonwealth; and

8 WHEREAS, Elder abuse is the act, or lack of action, in a  
9 relationship with the expectation of trust, which causes harm or  
10 distress to an older person; and

11 WHEREAS, Abuse can take many forms such as physical, sexual,  
12 emotional or psychological abuse, neglect or financial abuse;  
13 and

14 WHEREAS, No one is immune to the threat of elder abuse; and

15 WHEREAS, Nearly one in ten people over 60 years of age who  
16 live at home experience some form of abuse; and

1       WHEREAS, Elder abuse is more prevalent in institutions such  
2 as nursing homes and long-term care facilities; and

3       WHEREAS, Older women are more likely to be victims of abuse  
4 than older men; and

5       WHEREAS, Reports of elder abuse in this Commonwealth  
6 increased from 24,413 cases in 2015 to 2016, to 36,101 cases in  
7 2018 to 2019; and

8       WHEREAS, The Older Adults Protective Services Act requires  
9 that older adults who lack the capacity to protect themselves  
10 have access to and be provided with services necessary to  
11 protect their health, safety and welfare; and

12       WHEREAS, Every county in Pennsylvania utilizes an area agency  
13 on aging where abuse, neglect, exploitation or abandonment of  
14 older adults may be reported; and

15       WHEREAS, The Statewide hotline to report elder abuse is 1-  
16 800-490-8505; and

17       WHEREAS, It is necessary to increase awareness of the  
18 incident of elder abuse and educate people about the methods to  
19 report suspected cases of abuse; therefore be it

20       RESOLVED, That the House of Representatives designate June  
21 15, 2024, as "Elder Abuse Awareness Day" in Pennsylvania; and be  
22 it further

23       RESOLVED, That the House of Representatives strive to  
24 increase awareness every day about elder abuse and the resources  
25 in place to prevent it from occurring.