

---

THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF PENNSYLVANIA

---

SENATE RESOLUTION

No. 31 Session of  
2025

---

INTRODUCED BY HAYWOOD, CAPPELLETTI, STREET, COMITTA, KEARNEY,  
FONTANA, SCHWANK, TARTAGLIONE, COSTA, KANE, SAVAL, KIM AND  
SANTARSIERO, MARCH 6, 2025

---

REFERRED TO RULES AND EXECUTIVE NOMINATIONS, MARCH 6, 2025

---

A RESOLUTION

1 Recognizing the week of January 22 through 26, 2025, as "Gun  
2 Violence Survivors Week" in Pennsylvania.

3 WHEREAS, Gun violence, whether intentional or unintentional,  
4 involves the use of a firearm to commit violent acts, such as  
5 armed robbery, aggravated assault, suicide, homicide, domestic  
6 violence and mass shootings; and

7 WHEREAS, A gun violence survivor is anyone who has personally  
8 experienced gun violence, whether having been threatened or  
9 wounded with a gun or having witnessed an act of gun violence,  
10 or a family member or friend of someone who was wounded or  
11 killed as a result of gun violence; and

12 WHEREAS, For every person who dies from gun violence, more  
13 than two survive; and

14 WHEREAS, Nine out of ten gun violence survivors report  
15 experiencing trauma from the incident; and

16 WHEREAS, Among those persons who experienced gun violence  
17 within the last 12 months, more than half indicated the

1 resulting trauma affected their well-being and ability to  
2 function; and

3 WHEREAS, Half of survivors reported that they experienced gun  
4 violence in a home, whether their own or that of a neighbor,  
5 friend or family member; and

6 WHEREAS, Nurses, doctors and medical or hospital staff were  
7 the most likely to say they experienced the impact of gun  
8 violence through their work, followed by school employees, such  
9 as teachers and staff; and

10 WHEREAS, Two-thirds of survivors are in need of mental health  
11 services, therapy and support; and

12 WHEREAS, Nearly half of survivors require crime victim legal  
13 assistance; and

14 WHEREAS, For 40% of survivors, financial assistance is  
15 necessary to deal with medical expenses, such as physical  
16 therapy, rehabilitation services and surgical equipment; and

17 WHEREAS, Home health care is needed for one in four  
18 survivors; and

19 WHEREAS, Seven percent of survivors need assistance to cover  
20 funeral-related expenses; and

21 WHEREAS, Fifty-nine percent of American adults have been  
22 impacted by gun violence in their lifetime; and

23 WHEREAS, Three million children are affected by gun violence  
24 every year; and

25 WHEREAS, Currently, more than 1 million women living in the  
26 United States have been shot or shot at by their significant  
27 other; and

28 WHEREAS, Nearly 3.7 million women in the United States have  
29 been threatened with a gun by their significant other; and

30 WHEREAS, In an average year, 1,574 families and communities

1 are affected by gun violence and the pain, fear and trauma  
2 associated with it; and

3 WHEREAS, Gun violence rose more than 20% in Pennsylvania in  
4 the last 10 years; and

5 WHEREAS, In addition to the devastating human cost, every  
6 year gun violence costs the Pennsylvania economy \$567 million;  
7 and

8 WHEREAS, The Every Murder Is Real (EMIR) Healing Center in  
9 Philadelphia provides a holistic and trauma-informed approach to  
10 healing for those left in the wake of gun violence; and

11 WHEREAS, The EMIR Healing Center provides many services to  
12 support and assist families and communities, including  
13 individual and group grief support, assistance with victim  
14 compensation and education and navigation through the criminal  
15 justice system; and

16 WHEREAS, Mothers In Charge is a group of impassioned mothers,  
17 grandmothers, aunts, sisters and others who are committed to  
18 working toward saving lives through providing counseling and  
19 grief support services for families who have been impacted by  
20 gun violence; and

21 WHEREAS, Moms Demand Action is a national network of parents,  
22 families, students and concerned citizens dedicated to keeping  
23 families safe, encouraging responsible gun ownership and  
24 advocating for common-sense gun safety legislation; and

25 WHEREAS, Moms Demand Action, along with Mayors Against  
26 Illegal Guns, Students Demand Action and the Everytown Survivor  
27 Network, is part of Everytown for Gun Safety, the largest gun  
28 violence prevention organization in the country, with nearly 10  
29 million supporters and more than 350,000 donors; and

30 WHEREAS, Everytown for Gun Safety is joined by several other

1 national nonprofit organizations, including the Brady Campaign  
2 and Giffords Law Center, in the pursuit to end gun violence in  
3 America; and

4 WHEREAS, A gun violence survivor described the personal  
5 trauma as follows: "Dealing with the inconsistencies of healing,  
6 both physically and emotionally. The existence of being this  
7 gray person in a world where everyone else sees everything as  
8 black and white. I'm either completely fine and it's over and  
9 done, or I'm this wounded person who can never be functional -  
10 the lack of understanding that I am not really either, but some  
11 days may be one or the other"; and

12 WHEREAS, "Gun Violence Survivors Week" is an acknowledgment  
13 of the pain and suffering felt by survivors of gun violence who  
14 continue to live with that trauma; and

15 WHEREAS, By recognizing "Gun Violence Survivors Week," the  
16 Commonwealth joins communities across America to raise awareness  
17 of its broad impact on society and express empathy to those who  
18 have endured pain as a result of a firearm; therefore be it

19 RESOLVED, That the Senate recognize the week of January 22  
20 through 26, 2025, as "Gun Violence Survivors Week" in  
21 Pennsylvania; and be it further

22 RESOLVED, That the Senate recognize the Every Murder Is Real  
23 Healing Center, Mothers In Charge, Moms Demand Action and other  
24 gun violence prevention organizations for their efforts in  
25 addressing gun violence and in the pursuit of building safer  
26 communities for the residents of this Commonwealth and citizens  
27 of this country.