
THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF PENNSYLVANIA

HOUSE RESOLUTION

No. 313 Session of
2009

INTRODUCED BY MILNE, BAKER, BEAR, BELFANTI, BENNINGHOFF,
BRADFORD, BRENNAN, BRIGGS, BROOKS, BROWN, BURNS, CAUSER,
CLYMER, CREIGHTON, CUTLER, DELOZIER, DENLINGER, DIGIROLAMO,
ELLIS, EVERETT, FLECK, GINGRICH, GOODMAN, GRUCELA, HARHART,
HELM, HESS, HICKERNELL, JOHNSON, KILLION, LONGIETTI, MAJOR,
McILVAINE SMITH, MENSCH, METZGAR, MICOZZIE, MUSTIO,
OBERLANDER, O'NEILL, PALLONE, PARKER, PAYNE, PHILLIPS,
PICKETT, PYLE, QUINN, RAPP, READSHAW, ROSS, SANTONI, SAYLOR,
SCAVELLO, SEIP, SIPTROTH, SOLOBAY, SONNEY, SWANGER, TRUE,
VEREB, VULAKOVICH, WHEATLEY, YOUNGBLOOD, MOUL AND REICHLEY,
MAY 26, 2009

INTRODUCED AS NONCONTROVERSIAL RESOLUTION UNDER RULE 35, MAY 26,
2009

A RESOLUTION

1 Designating the month of May 2009 as "Literacy Month" in
2 Pennsylvania.

3 WHEREAS, Literacy is defined as the ability to understand the
4 complex systems at work in a culture for the benefit of both
5 personal and societal development; and

6 WHEREAS, In our society, literacy now extends beyond the
7 skills of reading, writing, speaking and listening to encompass
8 broader proficiencies, including visual, media, financial and
9 information literacy; and

10 WHEREAS, Great strides in literacy have transpired; and

11 WHEREAS, Nearly 4 billion people worldwide are literate, but
12 this number indicates a need for continued improvement and
13 awareness; and

1 WHEREAS, Education must be utilized as a tool by which to
2 begin the quest for literacy at a young age; and

3 WHEREAS, The pursuit of literacy empowers parents in their
4 role as a child's first teacher and charges them with preparing
5 children to enter a formal educational environment to improve
6 upon previously acquired skills; and

7 WHEREAS, Educators play a pivotal role in developing and
8 enhancing literacy skills which aid in human social development;
9 and

10 WHEREAS, Striving for literacy does not end with childhood
11 and affects all aspects of life, including health and welfare,
12 life skills, career and the basic ability to understand and
13 process daily events and situations; and

14 WHEREAS, Literacy has a direct correlation to health, as
15 persons who are not literate tend to have poor health and high
16 medical costs; and

17 WHEREAS, Literacy directly affects a person's ability to
18 function in the work force, and a literate work force capable of
19 using the current technology is essential to the national, State
20 and local economy; and

21 WHEREAS, Problems associated with illiteracy can be prevented
22 through education that prepares and molds students to be
23 literate citizens who can contribute to the community; and

24 WHEREAS, The essential function of literacy is to make it
25 possible for an individual to engage as fully as possible with
26 knowledge and cultural awareness in society and to be a catalyst
27 for change and improvement of society; and

28 WHEREAS, Literacy should be valued as a human right that
29 allows people to exercise the privileges and responsibilities of
30 citizenship; therefore be it

1 RESOLVED, That the House of Representatives designate the
2 month of May 2009 as "Literacy Month" in Pennsylvania.