

THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF PENNSYLVANIA

HOUSE RESOLUTION

No. 34 Session of 2011

INTRODUCED BY ROEBUCK, HARKINS, M. O'BRIEN, FLECK, MANN, BAKER, BEAR, B. BOYLE, CALTAGIRONE, D. COSTA, DIGIROLAMO, EVERETT, GEORGE, GINGRICH, GOODMAN, GRELL, HESS, KIRKLAND, KORTZ, MAJOR, MILLARD, MUSTIO, REICHLEY, ROSS, SCAVELLO, SWANGER, VEREB, VULAKOVICH AND YOUNGBLOOD, JANUARY 25, 2011

INTRODUCED AS NONCONTROVERSIAL RESOLUTION UNDER RULE 35, JANUARY 25, 2011

A RESOLUTION

1 Designating the month of January 2011 as "Financial Aid
2 Awareness Month" and commending the work of the Pennsylvania
3 Higher Education Assistance Agency and the Pennsylvania
4 Association of Student Financial Aid Administrators.

5 WHEREAS, January is the first month in which students can
6 apply for financial aid to help finance their postsecondary
7 education; and

8 WHEREAS, The ability of some college students to attend and
9 pursue a postsecondary education is conditional on the
10 availability of student financial assistance; and

11 WHEREAS, Knowledge of the availability of student financial
12 aid to help finance a postsecondary education has been shown to
13 vary across demographic groupings; and

14 WHEREAS, This Commonwealth, through the Pennsylvania Higher
15 Education Assistance Agency (PHEAA), has been one of the leading
16 states in the nation, providing need-based State grant financial
17 assistance to eligible Pennsylvania residents and providing

1 other State financial assistance programs; and

2 WHEREAS, The Pennsylvania Association of Student Financial
3 Aid Administrators (PASFAA) has been one of the leading State
4 associations of financial aid professionals in the nation who
5 advocate for access to postsecondary education and educate the
6 public on financial aid and funding opportunities; and

7 WHEREAS, The Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA)
8 is the first step in the financial aid process to apply for
9 Federal student aid, such as the Pell Grants, student loans and
10 college work-study programs; and

11 WHEREAS, FAFSA information is also used to award State grants
12 to Commonwealth students pursuing postsecondary education; and

13 WHEREAS, The Commonwealth, PHEAA and PASFAA want to promote
14 the availability of student financial assistance to help finance
15 a postsecondary education, in the form of Federal grants, State
16 grants, loans, work-study programs and other specialized State
17 funding programs to help eligible Pennsylvanians pursue their
18 postsecondary endeavors; therefore be it

19 RESOLVED, That the House of Representatives designate the
20 month of January 2011 as "Financial Aid Awareness Month," urge
21 all college students seeking financial assistance to apply for
22 financial aid through FAFSA and recognize the work of PHEAA and
23 PASFAA in their respective efforts to promote the availability
24 of postsecondary student financial assistance for the residents
25 of this Commonwealth.