
THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF PENNSYLVANIA

HOUSE RESOLUTION

No. 686 Session of
2014

INTRODUCED BY FLYNN, SCHLOSSBERG, BISHOP, READSHAW, CALTAGIRONE,
NEILSON, HENNESSEY, DIGIROLAMO, LUCAS, SNYDER, VEREB, ROZZI,
KOTIK, MILLARD, DAVIS, BOBACK, YOUNGBLOOD, LONGIETTI, THOMAS,
V. BROWN, MULLERY, DONATUCCI, MCNEILL, FARINA, HAGGERTY,
GOODMAN, COHEN, GINGRICH, FRANKEL, GIBBONS, BROWNLEE, KINSEY,
ROEBUCK, WATSON, HARHAI, MURT, O'NEILL, SCHREIBER, KAVULICH,
TOOHIL AND KORTZ, MARCH 10, 2014

INTRODUCED AS NONCONTROVERSIAL RESOLUTION UNDER RULE 35,
MARCH 10, 2014

A RESOLUTION

1 Designating the week of April 20 through 25, 2014, as
2 "Pennsylvania Family Center Network Week" in Pennsylvania.

3 WHEREAS, Pennsylvania Family Centers are early childhood,
4 parent education and family support programs serving families
5 throughout pregnancy until children are five years of age; and

6 WHEREAS, Services are tailored to the needs of the
7 communities served, and the Commonwealth invests more than \$3
8 million of State funds in 43 family centers throughout this
9 Commonwealth; and

10 WHEREAS, More than 60% of Pennsylvania's population lives in
11 the 28 counties served by family centers, of which half are
12 rural and half are urban; and

13 WHEREAS, Eighty-five percent of the families served are
14 considered high risk due to low educational attainment, poverty
15 or disability; and

1 WHEREAS, Family centers help families by increasing parent
2 knowledge and practices, providing early detection of
3 developmental delays and health issues, preventing child abuse
4 and neglect, increasing children's school readiness and school
5 success and increasing family involvement in the community; and

6 WHEREAS, Family centers serve more than 25,000 children per
7 year and of those served, 13,651 children are enrolled in the
8 Parents as Teachers (PAT) home visiting program; and

9 WHEREAS, PAT is federally recognized as an evidence-based
10 model program because it meets rigorous standards for
11 effectiveness; and

12 WHEREAS, PAT is the flagship program of all Pennsylvania
13 Family Centers and PAT's vision is that all children will learn,
14 grow and develop to reach their full potential; and

15 WHEREAS, PAT's mission is to provide the information, support
16 and encouragement parents need to help children develop
17 optimally during the crucial early years of life; and

18 WHEREAS, Parents are children's first and most influential
19 teachers, and the early years of life are critical for optimal
20 development and provide the foundation for success in school and
21 life; and

22 WHEREAS, Established and emerging research should be the
23 foundation of parent education and family support curricula,
24 training, materials and services; and

25 WHEREAS, All young children and their families deserve the
26 same opportunities to succeed, regardless of any demographic,
27 geographic or economic considerations; therefore be it

28 RESOLVED, That the House of Representatives designate the
29 week of April 20 through 25, 2014, as "Pennsylvania Family
30 Center Network Week" in Pennsylvania.