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THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF PENNSYLVANIA

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# HOUSE RESOLUTION

No. 1007 Session of  
2015

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INTRODUCED BY SAINATO, BARRAR, HENNESSEY, COOK-ARTIS, GIBBONS,  
MAJOR, CALTAGIRONE, YOUNGBLOOD, BARBIN, MILLARD, SCHLOSSBERG,  
DRISCOLL, BIZZARRO, HARHART, PICKETT, ROZZI, LONGIETTI,  
WATSON, DIGIROLAMO, PAYNE, EVERETT, BOBACK, READSHAW, KOTIK,  
M. DALEY, ROSS, GINGRICH, D. COSTA, PASHINSKI, McCARTER,  
R. BROWN, KIRKLAND, MARSICO AND MAHONEY, SEPTEMBER 20, 2016

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INTRODUCED AS NONCONTROVERSIAL RESOLUTION UNDER RULE 35,  
SEPTEMBER 20, 2016

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## A RESOLUTION

1 Designating the month of September 2016 as "Campus Fire Safety  
2 Awareness Month" in Pennsylvania.

3 WHEREAS, Recent student-related housing fires in Pennsylvania  
4 and other colleges and universities across the country have  
5 tragically cut short the lives of some of the youth of this  
6 nation; and

7 WHEREAS, Since January 2000, at least 170 people, including  
8 students, parents and children have died in campus-related  
9 fires; and

10 WHEREAS, Approximately 87% of these deaths have occurred in  
11 off-campus occupancies; and

12 WHEREAS, A majority of the students across the nation live in  
13 off-campus occupancies; and

14 WHEREAS, A number of fatal fires have occurred in buildings  
15 where the fire safety systems have been compromised or disabled

1 by the occupants; and

2 WHEREAS, It is recognized that automatic fire alarm systems  
3 and smoke alarms provide the necessary early warning of a fire  
4 to occupants and the fire department so that appropriate action  
5 can be taken; and

6 WHEREAS, It is recognized that automatic fire sprinkler  
7 systems are a highly effective method of controlling or  
8 extinguishing a fire in its early stages, protecting the lives  
9 of the building's occupants; and

10 WHEREAS, Many students are living in off-campus occupancies,  
11 Greek housing and residence halls that are not adequately  
12 protected with automatic fire sprinkler systems and automatic  
13 fire alarm systems or adequate smoke alarms; and

14 WHEREAS, It is recognized that fire safety education is an  
15 effective method of reducing the occurrence of fires and  
16 reducing the resulting loss of life and property damage; and

17 WHEREAS, Students are not routinely receiving effective fire  
18 safety education throughout their college careers; and

19 WHEREAS, It is vital to educate the nation's future  
20 generation about the importance of fire safety behavior so that  
21 these behaviors can help to ensure students' safety during their  
22 college years and beyond; and

23 WHEREAS, By developing a generation of fire-safe adults,  
24 future loss of life from fires can be significantly reduced;  
25 therefore be it

26 RESOLVED, That the House of Representatives designate the  
27 month of September 2016 as "Campus Fire Safety Awareness Month"  
28 in Pennsylvania; and be it further

29 RESOLVED, That the House of Representatives encourage  
30 colleges, universities and municipalities across this

1 Commonwealth to provide fire safety education to all students  
2 during September and throughout the academic year; and be it  
3 further

4       RESOLVED, That the House of Representatives encourage  
5 colleges, universities and municipalities to evaluate the level  
6 of fire safety being provided in both on-campus and off-campus  
7 student housing and take the necessary steps to ensure fire-safe  
8 living environments through fire safety education, installation  
9 of fire suppression and detection systems and smoke alarms and  
10 the development and enforcement of applicable codes relating to  
11 fire safety.