
THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF PENNSYLVANIA

SENATE RESOLUTION

No. 469 Session of
2015

INTRODUCED BY YUDICHAK, AUMENT, WOZNIAK, BREWSTER, TARTAGLIONE,
FONTANA, SABATINA, GREENLEAF, ARGALL, BOSCOLA, FARNESE,
BROWNE, DINNIMAN, WARD, TEPLITZ, KILLION, COSTA,
RESCHENTHALER, BAKER, BARTOLOTTA AND RAFFERTY,
OCTOBER 19, 2016

INTRODUCED AND ADOPTED, OCTOBER 19, 2016

A RESOLUTION

1 Designating October 20, 2016, as "Lights on Afterschool Day" in
2 Pennsylvania.

3 WHEREAS, More than 28 million children in the United States
4 have parents who work outside the home and more than 15 million
5 children are left unsupervised after the school bell rings; and

6 WHEREAS, Approximately 1.3 million children who are 6 to 17
7 years of age in Pennsylvania have both parents in the work force
8 or, in single-parent families, the sole parent in the work
9 force; and

10 WHEREAS, Eighteen percent of this Commonwealth's school-age
11 children, responsible for taking care of themselves outside
12 school, spend an average of 8.99 hours per week unsupervised
13 after school; and

14 WHEREAS, Out-of-school hours represent the single biggest
15 block of time for children and youths and are key to the
16 development of children into adolescents and adolescents into

1 adults; and

2 WHEREAS, After school programs provide safe, challenging,
3 engaging and fun learning experiences to help children and
4 youths develop academic, cultural, emotional, physical and
5 social skills; and

6 WHEREAS, After school programs support working families by
7 ensuring that their children are safe and productive during out-
8 of-school hours; and

9 WHEREAS, After school programs offer a fun and supportive
10 educational environment for Science, Technology, Engineering and
11 Mathematics (STEM) that helps foster this Commonwealth's
12 economic competitiveness; and

13 WHEREAS, A recent national survey reported that 52% of
14 parents cite cost as a barrier to enrolling their children in
15 after school programs; and

16 WHEREAS, Research illustrates that high-quality programming
17 improves student achievement, reduces crime by and against
18 children and youths and promotes positive social development;
19 and

20 WHEREAS, After school programs build stronger communities by
21 involving parents, business leaders and student and adult
22 volunteers in the lives of our young people, thereby promoting
23 positive relationships among children, youths, families and
24 adults; and

25 WHEREAS, Approximately 811,954 children in Pennsylvania would
26 participate in an after school program if one were available to
27 them; and

28 WHEREAS, Across the country, approximately 19.4 million
29 families report that they would enroll their child in an after
30 school program if one were offered; and

1 WHEREAS, "Lights on Afterschool," in its 17th year of
2 national celebration of after school programs, promotes the
3 critical importance of quality after school programs in the
4 lives of children, their families and their communities;
5 therefore be it

6 RESOLVED, That the Senate designate October 20, 2016, as
7 "Lights on Afterschool Day" in Pennsylvania.