

THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF PENNSYLVANIA

HOUSE RESOLUTION

No. 535 Session of 2017

INTRODUCED BY BOBACK, DEAN, BURNS, READSHAW, TOOHL, MURT,
SCHWEYER, JAMES, BAKER, ROZZI, MILLARD, KAVULICH, MACKENZIE,
CALTAGIRONE, VAZQUEZ, DAY, ROTHMAN, DIGIROLAMO, BIZZARRO,
SONNEY, DUSH, PICKETT, NEILSON, WARD, DAVIS, SAYLOR, HELM,
MARSICO, PASHINSKI, SCHLOSSBERG, KORTZ, DRISCOLL, WARNER,
CONKLIN, HICKERNELL AND BRADFORD, OCTOBER 2, 2017

INTRODUCED AS NONCONTROVERSIAL RESOLUTION UNDER RULE 35,
OCTOBER 2, 2017

A RESOLUTION

1 Recognizing October 2, 2017, as "Blue Shirt Day® World Day of
2 Bullying Prevention™" in Pennsylvania in support of those
3 working hard to raise awareness of bullying and preventing
4 its occurrence.

5 WHEREAS, Bullying is physical, verbal, sexual or emotional
6 harm or intimidation intentionally directed at an individual or
7 group of individuals; and

8 WHEREAS, Bullying occurs in neighborhoods, playgrounds,
9 schools and through technology such as the Internet and cell
10 phones; and

11 WHEREAS, Thousands of Pennsylvania children and adolescents
12 are affected by bullying annually; and

13 WHEREAS, Targets of bullying are more likely to acquire
14 physical, emotional and learning problems; and

15 WHEREAS, Students who are repeatedly bullied often fear
16 activities including riding the bus, going to school and

1 attending community activities; and

2 WHEREAS, Children who bully are at greater risk of engaging
3 in more serious violent behaviors; and

4 WHEREAS, Children who witness bullying often feel less
5 secure, more fearful and intimidated; and

6 WHEREAS, Bullying directly affects a student's ability to
7 learn, and bullied students may find it difficult to concentrate
8 in school, show a decline in grades and lose self-esteem, self-
9 confidence and self-worth; and

10 WHEREAS, Students can be especially effective in bullying
11 intervention; and

12 WHEREAS, According to the National Bullying Prevention
13 Center, more than 55% of bullying situations will stop when a
14 peer intervenes; and

15 WHEREAS, Student education on how to address bullying for
16 peers is critical, as is the support of adults; and

17 WHEREAS, October is "National Bullying Prevention Awareness
18 Month," a time when anti-bullying activities take place in
19 schools and communities; and

20 WHEREAS, To signify the importance of "National Bullying
21 Prevention Awareness Month," STOMP Out Bullying™, the leading
22 national anti-bullying and cyberbullying organization for kids
23 and teens, created "Blue Shirt Day® World Day of Bullying
24 Prevention™"; and

25 WHEREAS, Founded in 2005, STOMP Out Bullying™ focuses on
26 reducing and preventing bullying, cyberbullying, sexting and
27 other digital abuse, educating against racism and hatred and
28 deterring violence in schools, online and in communities across
29 the country; and

30 WHEREAS, Since 2008, "Blue Shirt Day® World Day of Bullying

1 Prevention™" has been recognized on the first Monday of October,
2 which is October 2 this year; and

3 WHEREAS, STOMP Out Bullying™ asks students, schools, parents
4 and businesses to GO BLUE on October 2, 2017, by wearing a blue
5 shirt; and

6 WHEREAS, A collective effort within our communities and
7 schools is vital to raising awareness of bullying and bullying
8 prevention; therefore be it

9 RESOLVED, That the House of Representatives recognize October
10 2, 2017, as "Blue Shirt Day® World Day of Bullying Prevention™"
11 in Pennsylvania in support of those working hard to raise
12 awareness of bullying and prevent its occurrence.