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THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF PENNSYLVANIA

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# HOUSE RESOLUTION

No. 407 Session of  
2002

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INTRODUCED BY RUBLEY, ARGALL, ARMSTRONG, M. BAKER, BARD,  
BASTIAN, BEBKO-JONES, BELARDI, BROWNE, BUNT, CALTAGIRONE,  
CAPPELLI, CIVERA, CORRIGAN, COY, CREIGHTON, CRUZ, DeLUCA,  
DERMODY, DeWEESE, DONATUCCI, J. EVANS, FAIRCHILD, FEESE,  
FLEAGLE, FORCIER, FRANKEL, FREEMAN, GABIG, GEIST, GEORGE,  
GRUCELA, HARHAI, HERMAN, HERSHEY, HESS, HUTCHINSON, JOSEPHS,  
KELLER, LAUGHLIN, LEDERER, LESCOVITZ, LEWIS, MAITLAND,  
MANDERINO, MANN, MARSICO, McILHATTAN, McNAUGHTON, MELIO,  
METCALFE, S. MILLER, PICKETT, PIPPY, PISTELLA, READSHAW,  
ROBERTS, ROSS, SANTONI, SATHER, SAYLOR, SEMMEL, SHANER,  
B. SMITH, SOLOBAY, STABACK, STURLA, TANGRETTI, E. Z. TAYLOR,  
THOMAS, TIGUE, TRAVAGLIO, TRICH, WASHINGTON, WATERS, WATSON,  
WILT, WOJNAROSKI AND YOUNGBLOOD, JANUARY 30, 2002

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INTRODUCED AS NONCONTROVERSIAL RESOLUTION UNDER RULE 35,  
JANUARY 30, 2002

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## A RESOLUTION

1 Declaring the week of February 10 through 16, 2002, as "Child  
2 Passenger Safety Week."

3 WHEREAS, More children in the United States are killed and  
4 crippled in car crashes than any other cause of injury; and

5 WHEREAS, Motor vehicle crashes are the leading cause of death  
6 for children from four to 14 years of age; and

7 WHEREAS, Children from two to five years of age who are  
8 placed in seat belts rather than child safety seats or booster  
9 seats are three and one-half times more likely to be  
10 significantly injured in a crash and are four times more likely  
11 to receive a significant head injury; and

12 WHEREAS, Fifty-six percent of all children under 15 years of

1 age killed in car crashes in 2000 were completely unrestrained;  
2 and

3 WHEREAS, According to the National Highway Traffic Safety  
4 Administration (NHTSA), child safety seats, when correctly used,  
5 can reduce fatalities and are one of the most effective safety  
6 innovations ever developed; and

7 WHEREAS, Child safety seats reduce the risk of fatal injury  
8 by 71% for infants and by 54% for toddlers in passenger cars;  
9 and

10 WHEREAS, All 50 states, the District of Columbia, Puerto Rico  
11 and the United States Territories have enacted laws requiring  
12 the use of child passenger protection systems; and

13 WHEREAS, Many child passenger safety seats are misused in  
14 some way and correct placement and harnessing are critical to  
15 ensure adequate protection; and

16 WHEREAS, Infants should always be placed in rear-facing seats  
17 until they are at least one year of age and weigh 20 pounds; and

18 WHEREAS, Children who weigh between 20 and 40 pounds should  
19 be placed in forward-facing safety seats; and

20 WHEREAS, All children who have outgrown child safety seats  
21 should be properly restrained in booster seats until they are at  
22 least eight years of age, unless they are four feet nine inches  
23 tall; and

24 WHEREAS, Children in rear-facing child seats should not be  
25 placed in the front seat of vehicles with passenger air bags as  
26 the impact of a deploying air bag on a rear-facing child seat  
27 could injure the child; and

28 WHEREAS, Children 12 years of age and younger should ride in  
29 the back seat; and

30 WHEREAS, Death and injury may be significantly reduced

1 through greater public awareness, information, education and  
2 enforcement of child passenger safety seat laws; therefore be it  
3 RESOLVED, That the House of Representatives, in recognition  
4 of every child's right to adequate protection when being  
5 transported in a motor vehicle, declare the week of February 10  
6 through 16, 2002, as "Child Passenger Safety Week."