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THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF PENNSYLVANIA

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# HOUSE RESOLUTION

No. 93

Session of  
2007

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INTRODUCED BY WOJNAROSKI, COHEN, DONATUCCI, GOODMAN, KOTIK, MANN, MARKOSEK, PALLONE, REICHLEY, SANTONI, ADOLPH, BAKER, BELFANTI, BENNINGTON, BEYER, BIANCUCCI, BISHOP, BOYD, BUXTON, CALTAGIRONE, CAPPELLI, CAUSER, CLYMER, CREIGHTON, CURRY, DeLUCA, J. EVANS, EVERETT, FABRIZIO, FRANKEL, GABIG, GEIST, GEORGE, GERGELY, GIBBONS, GILLESPIE, GINGRICH, GRUCELA, HENNESSEY, HERSHEY, FREEMAN, M. SMITH, SOLOBAY, SONNEY, STABACK, STERN, SURRA, TANGRETTI, J. TAYLOR, THOMAS, TRUE, VEREB, VULAKOVICH, WALKO, WATSON, WHEATLEY, YOUNGBLOOD, HESS, JAMES, KAUFFMAN, KENNEY, KULA, LONGIETTI, MACKERETH, MAHONEY, MAJOR, MANTZ, MARSICO, McGEEHAN, McILHATTAN, MICOZZIE, MILLARD, MOYER, MUNDY, NAILOR, M. O'BRIEN, O'NEILL, PARKER, PAYNE, PERRY, PETRI, PHILLIPS, PYLE, QUINN, RAMALEY, RAPP, REED, ROEBUCK, ROSS, RUBLEY, SAINATO, SAMUELSON, SAYLOR, SCAVELLO, SCHRODER, SIPTROTH, D. O'BRIEN AND HARHART, MARCH 6, 2007

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INTRODUCED AS NONCONTROVERSIAL RESOLUTION UNDER RULE 35,  
MARCH 6, 2007

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## A RESOLUTION

1 Designating the month of April 2007 as "Child Abuse Prevention  
2 Month" in Pennsylvania.

3 WHEREAS, Children bring happiness into our lives and hope to  
4 our future; and

5 WHEREAS, Children are our greatest joy and our most important  
6 responsibility; and

7 WHEREAS, It is our responsibility as parents, friends,  
8 neighbors, citizens and lawmakers to nurture and protect  
9 children, providing an atmosphere of love and respect in which  
10 they are able to grow into healthy, well-adjusted and productive

1 adults; and

2 WHEREAS, We, as a legislative body, have an ongoing  
3 commitment to protect the rights and needs of children; and

4 WHEREAS, In December 1999 the Senate directed the Joint State  
5 Government Commission to study child abuse within this  
6 Commonwealth and make recommendations to the General Assembly;  
7 and

8 WHEREAS, The General Assembly has defined child abuse as any  
9 "recent act or failure to act by a perpetrator which causes  
10 nonaccidental serious physical injury to a child under 18 years  
11 of age" or an "act or failure to act by a perpetrator which  
12 causes nonaccidental serious mental injury to or sexual abuse or  
13 sexual exploitation of a child under 18 years of age" and has  
14 made it illegal to engage in such activity; and

15 WHEREAS, Child abuse crosses all racial, economic and  
16 geographic boundaries and has reached epidemic proportions  
17 across this nation and throughout this Commonwealth; and

18 WHEREAS, There were 22,854 cases of possible child abuse or  
19 maltreatment referred for investigation in this Commonwealth in  
20 2005; and

21 WHEREAS, There were 4,390 substantiated cases of child abuse  
22 and neglect in this Commonwealth in 2005; and

23 WHEREAS, Thousands of Pennsylvanians in schools, social  
24 service agencies, churches and neighborhood groups throughout  
25 this Commonwealth are working hard to nurture and support the  
26 victims of child abuse and prevent future abuse; and

27 WHEREAS, In spite of the dedication and sacrifice of these  
28 individuals, much more still needs to be done to guarantee a  
29 childhood free of abuse and victimization to every child in this  
30 Commonwealth; and

1       WHEREAS, As our knowledge about the prevention and treatment  
2 of child abuse grows, we must provide support, information and  
3 guidance to families in which child abuse may happen; therefore  
4 be it

5       RESOLVED, That the House of Representatives designate the  
6 month of April 2007 as "Child Abuse Prevention Month" in  
7 Pennsylvania; and be it further

8       RESOLVED, That the House of Representatives continue to do  
9 its part in creating a nurturing and supportive environment for  
10 all children in this Commonwealth so that they might grow up to  
11 be healthy and productive citizens; and be it further

12       RESOLVED, That the House of Representatives commend the many  
13 individuals and community groups and organizations who work  
14 daily to treat and prevent child abuse in this Commonwealth and  
15 urge all Pennsylvanians to do their part in preventing the  
16 tragedy of child abuse.