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THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF PENNSYLVANIA

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HOUSE RESOLUTION

No. 886 Session of  
2008

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INTRODUCED BY WHEATLEY, BENNINGTON, BEYER, BISHOP, BOBACK,  
BRENNAN, CALTAGIRONE, COHEN, DALEY, DIGIROLAMO, DONATUCCI,  
FRANKEL, GEORGE, GIBBONS, GINGRICH, GOODMAN, GRUCELA, HELM,  
HENNESSEY, HERSHEY, JAMES, JOSEPHS, KIRKLAND, KORTZ, KOTIK,  
MAJOR, MANN, MANTZ, McCALL, McGEEHAN, McILVAINE SMITH, MELIO,  
MILLARD, MOYER, M. O'BRIEN, PALLONE, PARKER, PASHINSKI,  
PAYNE, PAYTON, QUINN, RAMALEY, RAPP, READSHAW, ROCK, ROEBUCK,  
ROSS, SAINATO, SAMUELSON, SANTONI, SAYLOR, SCAVELLO, SHAPIRO,  
SIPTROTH, SOLOBAY, SWANGER, VULAKOVICH, WAGNER, WATERS,  
WOJNAROSKI, YOUNGBLOOD, MARSICO, PHILLIPS AND STURLA,  
SEPTEMBER 18, 2008

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INTRODUCED AS NONCONTROVERSIAL RESOLUTION UNDER RULE 35,  
SEPTEMBER 18, 2008

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A RESOLUTION

1 Designating October 16, 2008, 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 14.3 million  
5 children have no place to go after school; and

6 WHEREAS, Nearly 1.8 million school-age children and youth in  
7 this Commonwealth have both parents in the work force; and

8 WHEREAS, Twenty-six percent of school-age children are  
9 responsible for taking care of themselves after school; and

10 WHEREAS, Many of these children are unsupervised on average  
11 20 to 25 hours per week; and

12 WHEREAS, Out-of-school hours represent the single biggest  
13 block of time for children and youth and a key time during the

1 development of children into adolescents and adolescents into  
2 adults; and

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

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

10 WHEREAS, Research illustrates that high-quality programming  
11 improves student achievement, reduces crime by and against  
12 children and youth and promotes positive social development; and

13 WHEREAS, After-school programs build stronger communities by  
14 involving parents, business leaders and student and adult  
15 volunteers in the lives of our young people, thereby promoting  
16 positive relationships among children, youth, families and  
17 adults; and

18 WHEREAS, "Lights on Afterschool! Day" is a national  
19 celebration of after-school programs on October 16, 2008, that  
20 promotes the critical importance of quality after-school  
21 programs in the lives of children, their families and their  
22 communities; therefore be it

23 RESOLVED, That the House of Representatives designate October  
24 16, 2008, as "Lights on Afterschool! Day" in Pennsylvania.