

THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF PENNSYLVANIA

SENATE RESOLUTION

No. 206 Session of
2011

INTRODUCED BY BROWNE, DINNIMAN, STACK, WARD, BAKER, FONTANA,
ALLOWAY, PILEGGI, BOSCOLA, SCHWANK, KASUNIC, PIPPY, MENSCH,
YUDICHAK, FERLO, EARLL, FARNESE, WASHINGTON AND ERICKSON,
OCTOBER 17, 2011

INTRODUCED AND ADOPTED, OCTOBER 17, 2011

A RESOLUTION

1 Designating the month of October 2011 as "Pennsylvania's Promise
2 for Children Month" in Pennsylvania.

3 WHEREAS, According to the Office of Child Development and
4 Early Learning Risk Report 2009-2010, there are approximately
5 737,000 children from birth to age five in Pennsylvania today;
6 and

7 WHEREAS, A young child's brain forms 700 neural synapses a
8 second; and the circuits for key functions such as
9 vision/hearing, language and higher cognitive function develop
10 most in the first five years of life. The creation of these
11 circuits is affected by a child's early learning environment;
12 and

13 WHEREAS, Quality early learning and child development play a
14 major role in a child's future success in school and in life;
15 and

16 WHEREAS, Young children learn best when they have proper
17 health and nutrition, a safe and stable family and home life and

activities that stimulate creativity, curiosity and all of the skills they will need to succeed in school and life; and

WHEREAS, The Abecedarian Project and Perry Preschool Project tell us that forty years of research shows that children receiving high-quality early education are more likely to be prepared for and do better in school, graduate high school, attend college or job training and be better prepared for a competitive work force; and

WHEREAS, Talking, reading and playing with children from birth builds the language, math and social skills they need to be ready for kindergarten; and

WHEREAS, Choosing quality early learning programs like Keystone STARS, Pre-K Counts, Head Start, Early Intervention, Nurse-Family Partnership and Parent-Child Home Program will partner with families and provide children with good teachers and learning activities that spark creativity and a love for learning so they can grow and develop; and

WHEREAS, Every \$1 invested in quality early education saves at least \$7 in special education, public assistance, corrections and lost taxes; therefore be it

RESOLVED, That the Senate designate the month of October 2011 as "Pennsylvania's Promise for Children Month," recognizing that every child in Pennsylvania deserves access to quality early learning opportunities and that it is the civic responsibility of every Pennsylvanian to help our children reach their promise.