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THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF PENNSYLVANIA

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HOUSE RESOLUTION

No. 346 Session of 2015

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INTRODUCED BY ACOSTA, BURNS, DiGIROLAMO, FREEMAN, CALTAGIRONE, PICKETT, KINSEY, HENNESSEY, MACKENZIE, BOBACK, V. BROWN, THOMAS, BAKER, READSHAW, VEREB, MCGINNIS, BENNINGHOFF, MILLARD, LONGIETTI, KIRKLAND, DUSH, SONNEY, WARD, C. PARKER, DONATUCCI, TOEPEL, WATSON, SAINATO, SCHREIBER, KILLION, P. DALEY, KAVULICH, MENTZER, SCHLEGEL CULVER, CONKLIN, McNEILL, YOUNGBLOOD, GABLER, SACCONI, PAYNE, MURT, HAHN, DRISCOLL, GOODMAN, ROSS, O'BRIEN, McCARTER, A. HARRIS, FARINA, D. COSTA, MAHONEY, DeLUCA, EVERETT, GILLEN, DAVIS, MAJOR, GINGRICH, GIBBONS, BROWNLEE, SABATINA, BIZZARRO AND DEAN, MAY 18, 2015

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INTRODUCED AS NONCONTROVERSIAL RESOLUTION UNDER RULE 35, MAY 18, 2015

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A RESOLUTION

1 Recognizing 2015 as the "Year of the Veteran in Pennsylvania" to  
2 highlight and celebrate the accomplishments of veterans as  
3 well as to continue to raise public awareness of issues  
4 related to veterans and the ongoing initiatives to serve  
5 those who have served their country.

6 WHEREAS, Philadelphia is the birthplace of the United States  
7 Army, United States Navy and United States Marine Corps,  
8 establishing a link between our city and those who have served  
9 our country dating back to pre-Revolutionary War times; and

10 WHEREAS, According to the Pennsylvania Department of Military  
11 and Veterans Affairs, our active duty and retired military  
12 personnel have an economic impact of \$1.5 billion in our  
13 communities across this Commonwealth; and

14 WHEREAS, Veterans of past wars and peace time as well as

1 those returning from overseas military duty to this Commonwealth  
2 are part of the foundation of our community; and

3 WHEREAS, Veterans have served our country in the armed forces  
4 and put themselves in harm's way, without regard for their  
5 personal safety, to protect us and preserve our liberties; and

6 WHEREAS, There are roughly one million veterans and their  
7 families living in this Commonwealth with service spanning World  
8 War II to the present, men and women of all races, religions,  
9 ethnicity, gender identifications and physical abilities; and

10 WHEREAS, Veterans offer our Commonwealth a talented and  
11 experienced pool of leaders, workers and neighbors; and

12 WHEREAS, Many veterans face challenges living to their  
13 fullest potential because of the injuries, both mental and  
14 physical, suffered during their service; and

15 WHEREAS, The Pennsylvania Department of Military and Veterans  
16 Affairs provides resources and assistance to this Commonwealth's  
17 military veterans and their families, providing quality care for  
18 aging and disabled veterans; and

19 WHEREAS, The Veterans' Trust Fund, benefiting veterans and  
20 their families, has grown significantly thanks to generous  
21 donations from residents of this Commonwealth who voluntarily  
22 make a \$3 donation when applying for or renewing their driver's  
23 license or renewing a motor vehicle registration; and

24 WHEREAS, The proceeds from the sale of the "Honoring our  
25 Veterans" license plate have also contributed to the growth of  
26 the Veterans' Trust Fund; and

27 WHEREAS, The Veterans' Trust Fund will sponsor the first ever  
28 Veterans Appreciation Day on Saturday, October 10, 2015, at Fort  
29 Indiantown Gap; and

30 WHEREAS, This one-day event is designed to provide veterans,

1 service members and their families with information on a wide  
2 range of benefits and services that are available to them; and

3 WHEREAS, Philadelphia became the first city in America to  
4 offer a tax credit to employers hiring returning veterans which  
5 will be assessed and modified as needed in 2015; therefore be it

6 RESOLVED, That the House of Representatives recognize 2015 as  
7 the "Year of the Veteran in Pennsylvania" to highlight and  
8 celebrate the accomplishments of veterans as well as to continue  
9 to raise public awareness of issues related to veterans and the  
10 ongoing initiatives to serve those who have served their  
11 country.