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THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF PENNSYLVANIA

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HOUSE RESOLUTION

No. 490 Session of  
2017

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INTRODUCED BY NEILSON, HENNESSEY, DIGIROLAMO, HEFFLEY, RABB,  
SOLOMON, MURT, PASHINSKI, DONATUCCI, BOYLE, KINSEY, DAVIS,  
MILLARD AND SAYLOR, SEPTEMBER 12, 2017

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INTRODUCED AS NONCONTROVERSIAL RESOLUTION UNDER RULE 35,  
SEPTEMBER 12, 2017

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A RESOLUTION

1 Recognizing the 50th anniversary of John Hancock Demonstration  
2 Elementary School in Philadelphia, on Friday, September 15,  
3 2017.

4 WHEREAS, John Hancock Demonstration Elementary School was  
5 named after John Hancock, the first individual to sign the  
6 Declaration of Independence, President of the Second Continental  
7 Congress and a delegate from the colony of Massachusetts; and

8 WHEREAS, John Hancock Demonstration Elementary School was a  
9 pioneer in its circular design, which allowed the school to use  
10 full-concept team teaching; and

11 WHEREAS, The school was the first to have an Instructional  
12 Materials Center; and

13 WHEREAS, The vision of John Hancock Demonstration Elementary  
14 School is to create productive, global-minded citizens by  
15 providing an inclusive, safe, student-centered learning  
16 environment where learners are empowered and held accountable  
17 for demonstrating meaningful learning and understanding through

1 inquiry-driven, project-based learning opportunities in a  
2 culture of care; and

3 WHEREAS, As a neighborhood school, the primary purpose of  
4 John Hancock is the development of new and improved programs for  
5 kindergarten and elementary school-age children to learn in the  
6 most effective ways; and

7 WHEREAS, The school's role as a demonstration school allows  
8 new curricula to be developed by the staff, which lends the  
9 programs to wall-less classrooms and team-teaching techniques,  
10 with the school's program based on flexibility and the  
11 opportunity for children to benefit from multiple teaching  
12 approaches and disciplines; and

13 WHEREAS, John Hancock Demonstration Elementary School is one  
14 of the few schools within the School District of Philadelphia  
15 that provide accommodations for hard-of-hearing and deaf  
16 children, giving the children special instruction in addition to  
17 their time in the mainstream classroom; and

18 WHEREAS, John Hancock Elementary Demonstration Elementary  
19 School has spent the past 50 years developing innovative  
20 curricula ideas; therefore be it

21 RESOLVED, That the House of Representatives recognize the  
22 50th anniversary of John Hancock Demonstration Elementary School  
23 on Friday, September 15, 2017; and be it further

24 RESOLVED, That a copy of this resolution be transmitted to  
25 William Griffin, Principal, John Hancock Demonstration  
26 Elementary School, 3700 Morrell Avenue, Philadelphia, PA 19114.