THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF PENNSYLVANIA

HOUSE RESOLUTION

No. 644 Session of 2002

INTRODUCED BY MARSICO, ARGALL, BASTIAN, BEBKO-JONES, BELFANTI,
BENNINGHOFF, BUNT, CALTAGIRONE, CAPPELLI, L. I. COHEN,
COLEMAN, CORRIGAN, COSTA, COY, CREIGHTON, CRUZ, DALEY,
DeLUCA, DeWEESE, EGOLF, FAIRCHILD, FEESE, FICHTER, FLEAGLE,
FORCIER, GEIST, GODSHALL, GORDNER, HASAY, HERMAN, HERSHEY,
HESS, HORSEY, KELLER, KIRKLAND, LAUGHLIN, LEDERER, LEH,
LESCOVITZ, LEWIS, MAJOR, MANN, McCALL, McGILL, McNAUGHTON,
MELIO, METCALFE, R. MILLER, NAILOR, PERZEL, PHILLIPS,
PICKETT, PISTELLA, READSHAW, ROBERTS, ROEBUCK, ROHRER, ROSS,
RUBLEY, SAINATO, SATHER, SAYLOR, SCAVELLO, SCHULER, SEMMEL,
SHANER, B. SMITH, SOLOBAY, STEELMAN, TANGRETTI, E. Z. TAYLOR,
THOMAS, TIGUE, WANSACZ, WASHINGTON, WILT, WOJNAROSKI,
G. WRIGHT, ZIMMERMAN AND ZUG, AUGUST 6, 2002

INTRODUCED AS NONCONTROVERSIAL RESOLUTION UNDER RULE 35,
AUGUST 6, 2002

A RESOLUTION

1 Declaring the month of October 2002 as "Pennsylvania Firearm
2   Safety Month" and encouraging organizations and the
3   Department of Education to support and use the Eddie Eagle
4   Gun Safety Program.

5   WHEREAS, The month of October begins another hunting season

6 for the sportsmen of this Commonwealth; and

7   WHEREAS, Pennsylvania's hunting heritage represents an

8 honorable tradition and a recreational opportunity with many

9 socioeconomic benefits; and

10   WHEREAS, Many sports and recreational activities, including

11 hunting, are from time to time marred by unfortunate accidents;

12 and

13   WHEREAS, Pennsylvania sportsmen and gun owners have not

1 rested on their firearm safety training laurels, and they view

2 any firearm accident, whether in the home or in the field, as

3 one too many; and

4 WHEREAS, Because of widespread ownership of firearms in this

5 Commonwealth, all children may be expected to come into contact

6 with a firearm sooner or later; and

7 WHEREAS, It is the firm belief of the House of

8 Representatives of the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania and the

9 National Rifle Association of America that teaching children to

10 act safely around firearms is a critical step in the effort to

11 reduce the number of firearm accidents among children; and

12 WHEREAS, The National Rifle Association of America, education

13 professionals, members of law enforcement, urban housing safety

14 officials, clinical psychologists and firearm safety experts

15 working together have developed a gun safety program designed

16 for children in prekindergarten through grade six; and

17 WHEREAS, The Eddie Eagle Gun Safety Program is a nationally

18 recognized firearms safety program that has reached over 9.4

19 million children since its creation; and

20 WHEREAS, The Eddie Eagle Gun Safety Program has received

21 numerous awards from the National Safety Council, the American

22 Legion Child Welfare Foundation and the National School Public

23 Relations Association; and

24 WHEREAS, The Eddie Eagle Gun Safety Program teaches the

25 fundamentals of firearms safety to children in an effective and

26 enjoyable way, communicating to them the lifesaving message

27 offered by the program: "If you see a gun: STOP! DON'T TOUCH.

28 LEAVE THE AREA. TELL AN ADULT"; therefore be it

29 RESOLVED, That the House of Representatives of the

30 Commonwealth of Pennsylvania declare the month of October 2002

1 as "Pennsylvania Firearm Safety Month"; and be it further

2   RESOLVED, That the House of Representatives encourage civil

3 and community service organizations which are concerned about

4 the safety and well-being of the children of this Commonwealth

5 to help support the Eddie Eagle Gun Safety Program at the local

6 level; and be it further

7   RESOLVED, That the House of Representatives encourage the

8 Department of Education to promote the use of the Eddie Eagle

9 Gun Safety Program in our schools to help prevent firearm-

10 related accidents among children; and be it further

11   RESOLVED, That copies of this resolution be transmitted to

12 the National Rifle Association of America and the Pennsylvania

13 Department of Education.