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THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF PENNSYLVANIA

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# HOUSE RESOLUTION

No. 2

Session of  
2007

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INTRODUCED BY D. O'BRIEN, PALLONE, PHILLIPS, McILVAINE SMITH, SHAPIRO, RUBLEY, O'NEILL, STURLA, WAGNER, RAPP, ROEBUCK, BRENNAN, BUXTON, CALTAGIRONE, CAPPELLI, CIVERA, CLYMER, COHEN, CONKLIN, COX, CURRY, CUTLER, DALEY, DALLY, DePASQUALE, DeWEESE, DiGIROLAMO, DONATUCCI, J. EVANS, FABRIZIO, FAIRCHILD, GABIG, GALLOWAY, GEIST, GEORGE, GERBER, GIBBONS, GILLESPIE, GINGRICH, GODSHALL, GRELL, GRUCELA, HARHAI, HARHART, HERSHEY, HESS, HICKERNELL, KAUFFMAN, KENNEY, KESSLER, KILLION, KING, KIRKLAND, KOTIK, KULA, LEACH, LEVDANSKY, MAHONEY, MAJOR, MANN, MANTZ, MARKOSEK, MARSICO, McGEEHAN, McILHATTAN, METCALFE, MILLARD, MOYER, MUNDY, MUSTIO, NAILOR, M. O'BRIEN, BELFANTI, PARKER, PETRONE, BAKER, PICKETT, PYLE, QUIGLEY, RAMALEY, BEYER, READSHAW, BISHOP, ROHRER, ROSS, BASTIAN, SAMUELSON, SANTONI, SAYLOR, SCAVELLO, SEIP, BARRAR, SHIMKUS, SIPTROTH, M. SMITH, SOLOBAY, SONNEY, STABACK, STEIL, STERN, SURRA, SWANGER, TANGRETTI, THOMAS, TRUE, VEREB, BENNINGTON, WATSON, WOJNAROSKI, YUDICHAK, BOYD, PAYNE, ELLIS, EVERETT, ADOLPH, DeLUCA, BENNINGHOFF, MANDERINO, SABATINA, McCALL, REED AND REICHLEY,  
APRIL 10, 2007

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INTRODUCED AS NONCONTROVERSIAL RESOLUTION UNDER RULE 35,  
APRIL 10, 2007

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## A RESOLUTION

1 Recognizing the month of April 2007 as "Autism Awareness Month"  
2 in Pennsylvania.

3 WHEREAS, Autism, a complex disability often involving mental  
4 retardation, requires greater recognition and understanding to  
5 ensure that all individuals with autism, whether or not they  
6 have mental retardation, are accurately diagnosed and  
7 appropriately treated throughout their lives; and

8 WHEREAS, Autism is a developmental disability resulting in

1 significant impairment of an individual's ability to learn,  
2 develop healthy interactive behaviors and understand verbal,  
3 nonverbal and reciprocal communication; and

4 WHEREAS, Autism is the result of a neurological disorder  
5 affecting brain function, which few members of the general  
6 public understand; and

7 WHEREAS, Although a cure for autism has not been found,  
8 individuals with autism can be assisted in reaching their  
9 greatest potential through accurate early diagnosis, appropriate  
10 education and intervention; and

11 WHEREAS, About 1 in 150 American children has autism, which  
12 has been called an urgent public health concern that is more  
13 common than previously thought; and

14 WHEREAS, The Department of Public Welfare recently created  
15 the Office of Developmental Programs, which includes the Bureau  
16 of Autism Services to provide expertise and supports for all  
17 agencies serving Pennsylvanians with autism; and

18 WHEREAS, Creation of the Bureau of Autism Services, along  
19 with the Commonwealth's commitment to fund additional services  
20 and supports for autistic children and adults, will bring about  
21 a new day for those individuals and their families; therefore be  
22 it

23 RESOLVED, That the House of Representatives recognize the  
24 month of April 2007 as "Autism Awareness Month" in Pennsylvania  
25 and urge its observance throughout this Commonwealth for the  
26 benefit of all who are diagnosed as being on the autism spectrum  
27 and their families.