

---

THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF PENNSYLVANIA

---

# HOUSE RESOLUTION

No. 279 Session of  
2007

---

INTRODUCED BY WHEATLEY, MARKOSEK, GERGELY, RAMALEY, PALLONE,  
BAKER, BELFANTI, BISHOP, BOYD, BRENNAN, BUXTON, CONKLIN,  
ELLIS, FLECK, FRANKEL, GALLOWAY, GEORGE, GIBBONS, HENNESSEY,  
JAMES, MANTZ, McCALL, MILLARD, PAYNE, PETRONE, SAINATO,  
SAYLOR, SIPTROTH, SOLOBAY, GRUCELA, KORTZ, YOUNGBLOOD, COSTA,  
PRESTON, LEVDANSKY, WALKO, J. WHITE, M. SMITH, PHILLIPS,  
DERMODY, MURT, SHIMKUS, CURRY, READSHAW, WOJNAROSKI, DeLUCA,  
DALEY AND WAGNER, MAY 18, 2007

---

INTRODUCED AS NONCONTROVERSIAL RESOLUTION UNDER RULE 35,  
MAY 18, 2007

---

## A RESOLUTION

1 Recognizing the phenomenal efforts of the Schenley High School  
2 Boys Basketball Team and congratulating them on their 2007  
3 Pennsylvania Interscholastic Athletic Association (PIAA)  
4 Class AAAA Boys Basketball Championship.

5 WHEREAS, The Schenley High School Boys Basketball Team  
6 finished the 2005-2006 season as the PIAA Class AAAA Runners-up,  
7 finishing second to Lower Merion, by two points, in a  
8 heartbreaker at Hershey; and

9 WHEREAS, After this defeat, which many sports writers termed  
10 one of the most controversial endings in high school sports, the  
11 players banded together to support each other, vowing to work  
12 harder and make themselves stronger for the 2006-2007 season;  
13 and

14 WHEREAS, Through their hard work and dedication these fine  
15 young men have come to symbolize the word "resilient"; and

1       WHEREAS, In the throes of the 2005-2006 PIAA defeat, Spartan  
2 forward DeJuan Blair made a pledge to a reporter for the  
3 Pittsburgh Post-Gazette, stating "We'll be back next year. I  
4 guarantee it," after the game; and

5       WHEREAS, The team, composed of 12 fine young men, Greg Blair,  
6 Deandre Kane, Raymar McClain, Jeremy Hawkins, Jamaal "Onion"  
7 Bryant, D.J. Kennedy, Jessee Granberry, Miles Porter, Michael  
8 Hickman, Embry Williams, DeJuan Blair and Robert Kelley,  
9 together with Coach Fred Skrocki, have played an arduous 2006-  
10 2007 schedule taking them as far away as Fort Myers, Florida, to  
11 compete among the best teams in the United States; and

12       WHEREAS, The Spartans, considered a national powerhouse, were  
13 listed in USA Today's Super 25 Boys Basketball Ranking, starting  
14 the season at number 25 and ending it at number 11; and

15       WHEREAS, Some team members have attained status as honor  
16 students, notwithstanding their outstanding abilities on the  
17 court and their pursuit of the International Baccalaureate, one  
18 of the most demanding of all curricula; and

19       WHEREAS, The young men on this team are so proud to be  
20 members of their communities that each of them engages in  
21 numerous volunteer and community activities; and

22       WHEREAS, A Pittsburgh City League team has not won the PIAA  
23 title in the largest classification since Schenley won in 1978,  
24 nearly 30 years ago; and

25       WHEREAS, On their way to the PIAA AAAA Championship, the  
26 Spartans met perennial favorites such as Harrisburg before  
27 meeting a tenacious Chester in the final game; and

28       WHEREAS, On March 24, 2007, at 8 p.m. at the Bryce Jordan  
29 Center at The Pennsylvania State University, DeJuan Blair made  
30 good on the pledge he made almost exactly one year earlier: the

1 Spartans were back in the championship; and

2 WHEREAS, This time Schenley came away with the gold ball,  
3 winning the PIAA title which had eluded a Pittsburgh City School  
4 for so long; therefore be it

5 RESOLVED, That the House of Representatives congratulate the  
6 fine young men of the Schenley High School Boys Basketball Team  
7 and their coach in recognition of their accomplishments as  
8 championship student athletes and as productive members of their  
9 community; and be it further

10 RESOLVED, That a copy of this resolution be transmitted to  
11 Schenley High School, 4101 Bigelow Boulevard, Pittsburgh, PA  
12 15213.