

THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF PENNSYLVANIA

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# HOUSE RESOLUTION

No. 679 Session of  
2008

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INTRODUCED BY M. O'BRIEN, KENNEY, BLACKWELL, BEYER, BUXTON,  
ADOLPH, BRENNAN, CALTAGIRONE, GEORGE, GODSHALL, GRUCELA,  
HARKINS, MANTZ, MARKOSEK, McCALL, MICOZZIE, MILLARD, MOUL,  
MUSTIO, O'NEILL, PAYNE, READSHAW, SANTONI, SAYLOR, SCAVELLO,  
STERN, SWANGER, WOJNAROSKI, YOUNGBLOOD, MENSCH, BEAR,  
J. TAYLOR AND REICHLEY, APRIL 1, 2008

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INTRODUCED AS NONCONTROVERSIAL RESOLUTION UNDER RULE 35,  
APRIL 1, 2008

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## A RESOLUTION

1 Commemorating the 25th anniversary of Associated Services for  
2 the Blind and Visually Impaired.

3 WHEREAS, Associated Services for the Blind and Visually  
4 Impaired (ASB) was formed in 1983 from the merger of the Radio  
5 Information Center for the Blind, the Nevil Institute for  
6 Rehabilitation Services and Volunteer Services for the Blind;  
7 and

8 WHEREAS, ASB traces its lineage back to the establishment of  
9 the Pennsylvania Working Home for Blind Men in 1874; and

10 WHEREAS, ASB is a leading nonprofit organization dedicated to  
11 the blind and visually impaired in the Delaware Valley; and

12 WHEREAS, ASB's Certified Rehabilitation Teachers and Mobility  
13 Specialists help their clients increase their independence and  
14 improve their self-esteem by teaching them to travel with white  
15 canes and handheld telescopes, to use public transportation and

1 to prepare meals, become literate in Braille and to label and  
2 select clothing; and

3 WHEREAS, ASB's Computer Technology Center opens doors for the  
4 blind and visually impaired by teaching them to use assistive  
5 technology that magnifies text or reads it aloud using  
6 synthesized speech; and

7 WHEREAS, ASB's Radio Information Center helps keep the blind  
8 and visually impaired of southeastern Pennsylvania connected to  
9 their world by providing readings of the latest news, current  
10 events and human interest stories in addition to important  
11 updates on relevant health and medical concerns; and

12 WHEREAS, ASB's Braille Division is one of only five major  
13 print shops and publishers of Braille in this nation, which  
14 presses, collates and binds more than nine million pages of  
15 books, periodicals, brochures, manuals, forms and statements  
16 each year for businesses and libraries across this Commonwealth,  
17 as well as the Library of Congress; and

18 WHEREAS, ASB's volunteers create audio recordings of books  
19 and periodicals for the benefit of blind, visually impaired and  
20 physically disabled adults and children nationwide; and

21 WHEREAS, ASB's Specialized Services Department contributes  
22 immeasurably to the health and well-being of the blind and  
23 visually impaired throughout southeastern Pennsylvania through  
24 its low vision and diabetes support groups, English as a Second  
25 Language classes, life skills education programs to promote  
26 independent living, garden, recreation and shopping assistance  
27 programs, legal clinic and other essential services; therefore  
28 be it

29 RESOLVED, That the House of Representatives commemorate the  
30 25th anniversary of Associated Services for the Blind and

1 Visually Impaired and recognize the contributions of ASB to the  
2 people of this Commonwealth; and be it further

3       RESOLVED, That a copy of this resolution be transmitted to  
4 Associated Services for the Blind and Visually Impaired, 919  
5 Walnut Street, Philadelphia, PA 19107.