

THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF PENNSYLVANIA

HOUSE RESOLUTION

No. 788 Session of 2010

INTRODUCED BY MUSTIO, BELFANTI, BEYER, BRIGGS, CALTAGIRONE, COHEN, CONKLIN, CREIGHTON, DALEY, DeLUCA, DIGIROLAMO, DONATUCCI, EVERETT, FAIRCHILD, GEIST, GEORGE, GIBBONS, GINGRICH, GOODMAN, GRELL, GRUCELA, HARHAI, HARHART, HELM, HENNESSEY, HESS, KILLION, KNOWLES, KORTZ, KOTIK, KULA, LONGIETTI, MARSHALL, MELIO, MOUL, MURT, OBERLANDER, O'NEILL, RAPP, READSHAW, REICHLEY, ROCK, ROEBUCK, ROSS, SANTONI, SCAVELLO, SIPTROTH, SOLOBAY, STEVENSON, SWANGER, TRUE, VEREB, VULAKOVICH AND WHEATLEY, APRIL 29, 2010

INTRODUCED AS NONCONTROVERSIAL RESOLUTION UNDER RULE 35, APRIL 29, 2010

A RESOLUTION

1 Designating the month of May 2010 as "Science: It's Elementary
2 Showcase of Student Learning Month" in Pennsylvania.

3 WHEREAS, During the month of May 2010, school districts
4 across this Commonwealth participating in "Science: It's
5 Elementary" will host Showcases of Student Learning; and

6 WHEREAS, Students will showcase scientific discovery and
7 actively engage parents, teachers, community members and
8 legislators with investigations from the "Science: It's
9 Elementary" modules that highlight important science concepts
10 sparked by hands-on, inquiry-based learning; and

11 WHEREAS, Through an investment of \$50 million since 2006 by
12 the Governor and the General Assembly, the Department of
13 Education is partnering with ASSET, Inc., (Achieving Student
14 Success Through Excellence in Teaching) to provide teacher

professional development for 2,800 teachers, impacting nearly 67,000 students in 140 school districts across 52 counties throughout this Commonwealth; and

WHEREAS, A nationally respected educational evaluation firm found that "Science: It's Elementary" changes school district culture, resulting in more frequent science lessons being taught in classrooms, leads to significant improvements in student achievement, and, for teachers who engage in rigorous, ongoing professional development, increases science content knowledge and confidence in teaching science; and

WHEREAS, Because of the partnership between ASSET, Inc., and the Department of Education, elementary students are learning science through the best education practices, which are delivered by highly dedicated and qualified educators who have participated in ASSET's rigorous professional development program; and

WHEREAS, An independent evaluation found that fourth-grade students in ASSET, Inc., member schools scored significantly higher than their peers in demographically similar comparison schools on the Pennsylvania System of School Assessments in science, mathematics and reading; and

WHEREAS, ASSET, Inc., directly impacts 5,000 teachers and 142,000 students annually in approximately 180 school districts, charter and private schools in Pennsylvania; and

WHEREAS, Since its establishment in 1994, ASSET, Inc., has provided school districts across this Commonwealth with quality educational opportunities by bringing together governmental agencies, corporations, foundations and universities in support of science education reform; therefore be it

RESOLVED, That the House of Representatives recognize the

1 outstanding contributions of "Science: It's Elementary" and
2 designate the month of May 2010 as "Science: It's Elementary
3 Showcase of Student Learning Month" in Pennsylvania.