

THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF PENNSYLVANIA

HOUSE RESOLUTION

No. 442 Session of 2011

INTRODUCED BY WHEATLEY, BISHOP, BRENNAN, BRIGGS, V. BROWN, CALTAGIRONE, CLYMER, COHEN, D. COSTA, DALEY, DIGIROLAMO, EVERETT, FABRIZIO, FREEMAN, GODSHALL, GOODMAN, HENNESSEY, HORNAMAN, JOHNSON, JOSEPHS, KIRKLAND, KORTZ, KOTIK, LONGIETTI, MAHONEY, MANN, MCGEEHAN, MILLARD, MILNE, MIRABITO, MOUL, MURT, M. O'BRIEN, O'NEILL, PARKER, PASHINSKI, RAVENSTAHL, READSHAW, ROCK, ROEBUCK, SAINATO, SANTONI, STURLA, SWANGER, THOMAS, VEREB, VULAKOVICH, WAGNER AND YOUNGBLOOD, OCTOBER 6, 2011

INTRODUCED AS NONCONTROVERSIAL RESOLUTION UNDER RULE 35, OCTOBER 6, 2011

A RESOLUTION

1 Designating October 20, 2011, as "Lights on Afterschool! Day" in
2 Pennsylvania.

3 WHEREAS, More than 28 million children in the United States
4 have parents who work outside the home, and more than 15 million
5 children are left unsupervised after the school day ends; and

6 WHEREAS, Almost 1.3 million children 6 through 17 years of
7 age in this Commonwealth have both parents in the work force or,
8 in single-parent families, the sole parent in the work force;
9 and

10 WHEREAS, Twenty-six percent of the nation's school-age
11 children are responsible for taking care of themselves after
12 school; and

13 WHEREAS, Out-of-school hours represent the "single biggest
14 block of time" for children and youth and a key time during the

1 development of children into adolescents and adolescents into
2 adults; and

3 WHEREAS, After school programs provide safe, challenging,
4 engaging and fun learning experiences to help children and youth
5 develop academic, cultural, emotional, physical and social
6 skills; and

7 WHEREAS, After school programs support working families by
8 ensuring that their children are safe and productive during out-
9 of-school hours; and

10 WHEREAS, A recent national survey found that 52% of parents
11 cite cost as a barrier to enrolling their children in after
12 school programs; and

13 WHEREAS, Research illustrates that high-quality programming
14 improves student achievement, reduces crime by and against
15 children and youth and promotes positive social development; and

16 WHEREAS, After school programs build stronger communities by
17 involving parents, business leaders and student and adult
18 volunteers in the lives of young people, thereby promoting
19 positive relationships among children, youth, families and
20 adults; and

21 WHEREAS, "Lights on Afterschool! Day" is a national
22 celebration of after school programs on October 20, 2011, that
23 promotes the critical importance of quality after school
24 programs in the lives of children, their families and their
25 communities; therefore be it

26 RESOLVED, That the House of Representatives designate October
27 20, 2011, as "Lights on Afterschool! Day" in Pennsylvania.