
THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF PENNSYLVANIA

HOUSE RESOLUTION

No. 692 Session of
2014

INTRODUCED BY SCHREIBER, COHEN, DIGIROLAMO, CALTAGIRONE,
D. COSTA, MIRABITO, MILLARD, MAJOR, READSHAW, LONGIETTI,
FREEMAN, PASHINSKI, LUCAS, KOTIK, SCHLOSSBERG, HAGGERTY,
FARINA, THOMAS, TALLMAN, YOUNGBLOOD, FLYNN, HENNESSEY,
SCHLEGEL CULVER, O'BRIEN, JAMES, SWANGER, DAVIS, KIRKLAND,
ROSS, MCNEILL, FRANKEL, GROVE, FLECK AND GOODMAN,
MARCH 10, 2014

INTRODUCED AS NONCONTROVERSIAL RESOLUTION UNDER RULE 35,
MARCH 10, 2014

A RESOLUTION

1 Designating March 19, 2014, as "Kick Butts Day" in Pennsylvania.

2 WHEREAS, Tobacco use is the leading cause of preventable
3 death in the United States, imposing a terrible toll in terms of
4 health, lives and dollars on families, businesses and
5 government; and

6 WHEREAS, Tobacco kills more than 400,000 people annually,
7 more than AIDS, alcohol, car accidents, illegal drugs, murders
8 and suicides combined; and

9 WHEREAS, Tobacco costs the United States more than \$96
10 billion in health care expenditures and \$97 billion in lost
11 productivity each year; and

12 WHEREAS, While the United States has made major progress
13 against tobacco use, nearly one in five Americans still smokes;
14 and

1 WHEREAS, Each day roughly 3,000 youth under 18 years of age
2 try smoking for the first time and more than 700 youth become
3 new regular, daily smokers; and

4 WHEREAS, One in three of these youth will die prematurely
5 because of tobacco use; and

6 WHEREAS, Eight hundred million packs of cigarettes are
7 consumed by children each year; and

8 WHEREAS, Approximately 480,000 people die each year from
9 their own cigarette smoking or exposure to secondhand smoke; and

10 WHEREAS, Sixteen million people in the United States
11 currently suffer from smoking-caused illness; and

12 WHEREAS, The total annual public and private health care
13 expenditures caused by smoking is at least \$132.5 billion; and

14 WHEREAS, Annual tobacco industry spending on marketing its
15 products nationwide is \$8.8 billion or \$24 million each day,
16 with much of the marketing aimed at children; and

17 WHEREAS, It is imperative that visible, unified tobacco
18 cessation and prevention education efforts by community members
19 be launched to encourage all tobacco users to become tobacco-
20 free; and

21 WHEREAS, Businesses, government, law enforcement, schools,
22 faith-based institutions, service organizations, youth,
23 physicians, senior citizens, military, sports teams and
24 individuals from all other walks of life will demonstrate their
25 commitment to tobacco-free, healthy lifestyles by participating
26 in Kick Butts Day; therefore be it

27 RESOLVED, That the House of Representatives designate March
28 19, 2014, as "Kick Butts Day" in Pennsylvania, and encourage
29 citizens of all ages to participate in tobacco cessation and
30 prevention education activities to make a visible show of

- 1 support for our strong commitment to a tobacco-free community,
- 2 encouraging all youth and adults to pledge to be tobacco-free.