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THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF PENNSYLVANIA

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HOUSE RESOLUTION

No. 444 Session of  
2015

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INTRODUCED BY DONATUCCI, KINSEY, COHEN, SCHWEYER, MURT, ROEBUCK, BISHOP, MILLARD, SCHREIBER, PASHINSKI, CALTAGIRONE, SANTARSIERO, FARINA, MAJOR, D. COSTA, DAVIDSON, WARD, McNEILL, W. KELLER, YOUNGBLOOD, DRISCOLL, C. PARKER, DAVIS, READSHAW, DEAN, SAMUELSON, SCHLOSSBERG, VEREB, ROZZI, R. BROWN, FRANKEL, M. DALEY, BOBACK, ROSS, KIRKLAND, SIMS, McCARTER, KIM, LONGIETTI, DiGIROLAMO, PAYNE, PETRI, THOMAS, MENTZER, GOODMAN AND GINGRICH, AUGUST 18, 2015

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INTRODUCED AS NONCONTROVERSIAL RESOLUTION UNDER RULE 35,  
AUGUST 18, 2015

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A RESOLUTION

1 Recognizing August 26, 2015, as "Women's Equality Day" in  
2 Pennsylvania.

3 WHEREAS, In 1971, the Congress of the United States  
4 designated August 26 as Women's Equality Day at the request of  
5 Representative Bella Abzug, Democrat, of New York; and

6 WHEREAS, The observance commemorated the passage and  
7 ratification in 1920 of the 19th Amendment to the Constitution  
8 of the United States, granting women the right to vote; and

9 WHEREAS, Passed by Congress in 1919, the 19th Amendment  
10 resulted from a peaceful women's civil rights movement which had  
11 officially begun in 1848 in Seneca Falls, New York; and

12 WHEREAS, The Seneca Falls Convention yielded the Declaration  
13 of Sentiments, a key document which Frederick Douglass called  
14 the "grand movement for attaining the civil, social, political,

1 and religious rights of women"; and

2 WHEREAS, From the mid-19th century through the early 20th  
3 century, women's rights activists, such as Elizabeth Cady  
4 Stanton, Lucretia Mott, Susan B. Anthony, Lucy Stone, Alice Paul  
5 and Lucy Burns, organized, wrote, spoke and picketed in order to  
6 gain voting rights for all women; and

7 WHEREAS, On June 4, 1919, after much congressional debate,  
8 the proposed constitutional amendment providing for women's  
9 suffrage passed by a vote of 56-25; and

10 WHEREAS, On August 18, 1920, Tennessee was the final state to  
11 ratify the 19th Amendment; and

12 WHEREAS, The monumental passage of the 19th Amendment marked  
13 the first of many victories in the women's rights movement; and

14 WHEREAS, Women's Equality Day commemorates the landmark  
15 achievement of the passage and ratification of the 19th  
16 Amendment, while calling attention to continuing efforts in the  
17 attainment of full equality for women; therefore be it

18 RESOLVED, That the House of Representatives recognize August  
19 26, 2015, as "Women's Equality Day" in Pennsylvania and  
20 encourage all Pennsylvanians to participate in related events in  
21 their communities.