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THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF PENNSYLVANIA

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# HOUSE RESOLUTION

No. 657 Session of  
2015

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INTRODUCED BY HARHART, BAKER, BIZZARRO, BOBACK, V. BROWN,  
BULLOCK, COHEN, D. COSTA, DIGIROLAMO, DONATUCCI, DUSH,  
EVERETT, FARINA, FREEMAN, GROVE, HEFFLEY, HENNESSEY,  
PHILLIPS-HILL, KILLION, KIM, KINSEY, KIRKLAND, LONGIETTI,  
MACKENZIE, MATZIE, MILLARD, MURT, NESBIT, PAYNE, PICKETT,  
READSHAW, ROSS, SAYLOR, SCHLOSSBERG, SCHREIBER, SONNEY,  
THOMAS, TOOHIL, VEREB, WARD, WATSON, WHEELAND AND YOUNGBLOOD,  
JANUARY 25, 2016

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INTRODUCED AS NONCONTROVERSIAL RESOLUTION UNDER RULE 35,  
JANUARY 25, 2016

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## A RESOLUTION

1 Recognizing the month of January 2016 as "National Mentoring  
2 Month" in Pennsylvania.

3 WHEREAS, Evidence-based mentoring is a longstanding concept  
4 in which a dependable adult provides guidance, support and  
5 encouragement to facilitate a young person's social, emotional  
6 and cognitive development; and

7 WHEREAS, High-quality, evidence-based mentoring promotes  
8 positive outcomes for young people, including an increased sense  
9 of industry and competency, a boost in academic performance and  
10 self-esteem and improved social and communications skills; and

11 WHEREAS, Research shows that participation in a high-quality,  
12 evidence-based mentoring relationship successfully reduces the  
13 incidence of violence, delinquency, substance abuse and academic  
14 failure in young people; and

1 WHEREAS, Research also shows that participation in a high-  
2 quality, evidence-based mentoring relationship dramatically  
3 reduces dependence on social services and results in a cost  
4 benefit to the Commonwealth; and

5 WHEREAS, Evidence-based mentoring, in addition to being  
6 beneficial for those being mentored, is also extremely rewarding  
7 for those serving as mentors; and

8 WHEREAS, Quality programs that encourage young people to  
9 learn about evidence-based mentoring and to become mentors, such  
10 as programs that recruit high school students to mentor younger  
11 children, are important and have the potential to create high-  
12 quality mentors at an early age; and

13 WHEREAS, Evidence-based mentoring relationships have grown  
14 dramatically in the past 15 years, now reaching 12,000 young  
15 Pennsylvanians, because of the remarkable creativity, vigor and  
16 resourcefulness of evidence-based mentoring programs and  
17 volunteer mentors in communities throughout this Commonwealth;  
18 and

19 WHEREAS, In spite of the progress made to increase evidence-  
20 based mentoring, this Commonwealth has a serious mentoring gap,  
21 with thousands of young people currently in need of mentors; and

22 WHEREAS, A recent study confirmed that one of the most  
23 critical challenges that evidence-based mentoring programs face  
24 is recruiting enough mentors to help close the mentoring gap;  
25 and

26 WHEREAS, The month-long celebration of evidence-based  
27 mentoring will encourage more individuals and organizations,  
28 including schools, businesses, nonprofit organizations, faith  
29 institutions and foundations, to become engaged in evidence-  
30 based mentoring across this Commonwealth; and

1       WHEREAS, "National Mentoring Month" will build awareness of  
2 evidence-based mentoring and recruit more individuals to become  
3 mentors, thus helping to close our nation's mentoring gap;  
4 therefore be it

5       RESOLVED, That the House of Representatives recognize the  
6 month of January 2016 as "National Mentoring Month," acknowledge  
7 the diligent efforts of individuals and groups who promote  
8 evidence-based mentoring and who are observing "National  
9 Mentoring Month" with appropriate ceremonies and activities to  
10 further promote awareness of and volunteer involvement with  
11 youth mentoring, recognize with gratitude the contributions of  
12 the millions of caring adults and students who are already  
13 volunteering as mentors and encourage more adults and students  
14 to volunteer as mentors.