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THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF PENNSYLVANIA

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# HOUSE RESOLUTION

No. 925 Session of  
2015

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INTRODUCED BY CORBIN, BAKER, BIZZARRO, HEFFLEY, DIGIROLAMO,  
YOUNGBLOOD, VEREB, DONATUCCI, KIRKLAND, THOMAS, JAMES,  
WATSON, MILLARD, WHEELAND, PICKETT, D. COSTA, SCHLOSSBERG,  
ROSS, FEE, ROEBUCK, BULLOCK, WARD, MAJOR, MARSICO, HENNESSEY,  
NEILSON, HARHART, GINGRICH, GROVE, HELM AND BRADFORD,  
JUNE 14, 2016

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INTRODUCED AS NONCONTROVERSIAL RESOLUTION UNDER RULE 35,  
JUNE 14, 2016

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## A RESOLUTION

1 Recognizing the month of August 2016 as "National Immunization  
2 Awareness Month" in Pennsylvania.

3 WHEREAS, The United States eradicated smallpox and polio  
4 through immunization, one of the most significant public health  
5 achievements of the 20th century; and

6 WHEREAS, With advances in vaccine technology, the incidence  
7 of measles, pertussis and diphtheria in the United States has  
8 fallen by more than 98%; and

9 WHEREAS, The United States offers further protection from  
10 disease and public health emergencies, vaccinating against  
11 hepatitis A and B, influenza, human papillomavirus and cervical  
12 cancer, meningococcal and pneumococcal diseases, mumps, rabies,  
13 shingles, smallpox, tetanus, tuberculosis, typhoid fever,  
14 varicella and yellow fever; and

15 WHEREAS, Vaccine-preventable diseases cause 1.7 million

1 deaths among children worldwide each year; and

2 WHEREAS, Only 77% of children in the United States have  
3 received all of the recommended vaccinations; and

4 WHEREAS, Vaccine-preventable diseases cause 50,000 deaths  
5 among adults in the United States each year; and

6 WHEREAS, Pneumonia and influenza are the fifth leading cause  
7 of death among adults 65 years of age or older, but fewer than  
8 70% of those persons are appropriately vaccinated; and

9 WHEREAS, Health care professionals and researchers have  
10 facilitated the success of immunizations in eradicating certain  
11 diseases and drastically decreasing other disease incidence  
12 rates; and

13 WHEREAS, "National Immunization Awareness Month" encourages  
14 individuals to receive recommended immunizations and seeks  
15 increased community awareness of the benefits of immunization;  
16 and

17 WHEREAS, August is an ideal month for children to receive  
18 immunizations required for school and an appropriate time for  
19 this national health observance; therefore be it

20 RESOLVED, That the House of Representatives recognize the  
21 month of August 2016 as "National Immunization Awareness Month"  
22 in Pennsylvania; and be it further

23 RESOLVED, That the House of Representatives reaffirm our  
24 nation's continuing commitment to public education relating to  
25 immunization and maintenance of strong immunization programs for  
26 people of all ages within our health care systems.