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THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF PENNSYLVANIA

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# SENATE RESOLUTION

No. 155 Session of  
2015

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INTRODUCED BY VANCE, AUMENT, BAKER, MENSCH, COSTA, DINNIMAN,  
SCHWANK, GREENLEAF, PILEGGI, RAFFERTY, SCAVELLO, VULAKOVICH,  
WHITE, FONTANA, TARTAGLIONE, TEPLITZ AND YUDICHAK,  
JUNE 22, 2015

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INTRODUCED AND ADOPTED, JUNE 22, 2015

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A RESOLUTION

1 Honoring community health centers and their 50 years of  
2 providing quality and affordable primary and preventive  
3 health care services.

4 WHEREAS, Community health centers, also known as federally  
5 qualified health centers, were nationally founded in 1965 and  
6 Pennsylvania welcomed its first community health center to  
7 Pittsburgh in 1968; and

8 WHEREAS, It is the mission of all community health centers to  
9 provide primary medical, dental and behavioral health services  
10 to all individuals regardless of their income or access to  
11 insurance; and

12 WHEREAS, Community health centers are the largest network of  
13 primary care providers serving vulnerable Pennsylvanians in need  
14 of primary care; and

15 WHEREAS, Community health centers can only be established in  
16 communities that lack access to primary care or have significant  
17 poverty rates; and

1       WHEREAS, Community health centers provide primary care  
2 services through their dedicated health professional employees  
3 and a team-based approach to effective patient-centered primary  
4 care; and

5       WHEREAS, Community health centers are nonprofit organizations  
6 governed by their community-based board of directors to be  
7 reflective of the community and patients they serve; and

8       WHEREAS, Community health centers provide primary care to  
9 over 700,000 patients Statewide; and

10       WHEREAS, Community health centers have expanded their  
11 services to over 250 sites serving patients in 49 rural and  
12 urban counties; and

13       WHEREAS, Community health centers have demonstrated the  
14 ability to serve more individuals challenged by social  
15 determinants of health, such as poverty, and with complex  
16 medical conditions, in a highly effective and cost-efficient  
17 manner; and

18       WHEREAS, Community health centers are highly transparent by  
19 providing clinical outcome measures to the public over multiple  
20 years; and

21       WHEREAS, Community health centers have led health care  
22 industry standards by a majority of centers attaining patient-  
23 centered medical home recognition and implementing electronic  
24 health records to better serve their patients; therefore be it

25       RESOLVED, That the Senate honor community health centers for  
26 50 years of providing quality primary care to the residents of  
27 this Commonwealth; and be it further

28       RESOLVED, That a copy of this resolution be forwarded to the  
29 Pennsylvania Association of Community Health Centers, 1035 Mumma  
30 Road, Suite 1, Wormleysburg, PA 17043.