
THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF PENNSYLVANIA

HOUSE RESOLUTION

No. 709 Session of
2018

INTRODUCED BY HILL-EVANS, HENNESSEY, MILLARD, TOOHL, DEAN,
SCHLOSSBERG, ENGLISH, MURT, DAVIS, BAKER, RABB, DRISCOLL,
PASHINSKI, DIGIROLAMO, LONGIETTI, SAYLOR, SOLOMON, WARD,
BURNS, SONNEY, DUSH, KAVULICH, J. McNEILL, MADDEN, NEILSON
AND WATSON, MARCH 6, 2018

INTRODUCED AS NONCONTROVERSIAL RESOLUTION UNDER RULE 35,
MARCH 6, 2018

A RESOLUTION

1 Designating March 21, 2018, 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 on
4 families, businesses and government in terms of health, lives
5 and dollars; and

6 WHEREAS, Tobacco kills more than 480,000 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 \$170
10 billion in health care expenditures and \$156 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

15 WHEREAS, Each day, more than 3,200 youths under 18 years of

1 age try smoking for the first time and more than 2,100 youths
2 become new regular, daily smokers; and

3 WHEREAS, One in thirteen of these youths will die prematurely
4 because of tobacco use; and

5 WHEREAS, Each year, 540 million packs of cigarettes are
6 consumed by children; and

7 WHEREAS, Approximately 53,800 people die each year from
8 exposure to secondhand smoke; and

9 WHEREAS, In the United States, more than 16 million people
10 currently suffer from smoking-caused illnesses; and

11 WHEREAS, The tobacco industry spends approximately \$8.9
12 billion or \$24 million each day on marketing its products
13 nationwide, with much of the marketing aimed at children; and

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

18 WHEREAS, Businesses, government, law enforcement, schools,
19 faith-based institutions, service organizations, youths,
20 physicians, senior citizens, military organizations, sports
21 teams and individuals from all walks of life can demonstrate
22 their commitment to tobacco-free, healthy lifestyles by
23 participating in "Kick Butts Day"; therefore be it

24 RESOLVED, That the House of Representatives designate March
25 21, 2018, as "Kick Butts Day" in Pennsylvania; and be it further

26 RESOLVED, That the House of Representatives encourage
27 residents of all ages to participate in tobacco cessation and
28 prevention education activities to make a visible show of
29 support for our strong commitment to a tobacco-free community,
30 encouraging all youths and adults to pledge to be tobacco-free.