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THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF PENNSYLVANIA

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HOUSE RESOLUTION

No. 1086 Session of  
2020

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INTRODUCED BY BULLOCK, MURT, HILL-EVANS, KINSEY, BURNS,  
KENYATTA, T. DAVIS, LONGIETTI, HOWARD, GALLOWAY AND PETRARCA,  
NOVEMBER 10, 2020

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INTRODUCED AS NONCONTROVERSIAL RESOLUTION UNDER RULE 35,  
NOVEMBER 10, 2020

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A RESOLUTION

1 Designating the week of November 16 through 20, 2020, as  
2 "Pennsylvania Education for Students Experiencing  
3 Homelessness Awareness Week" and November 20, 2020, as "Red  
4 Shirt Day" in Pennsylvania.

5 WHEREAS, In the 2018-2019 school year, 39,221 students in  
6 Pennsylvania schools were homeless or without adequate housing;  
7 and

8 WHEREAS, This represents an 8% increase from the 2017-2018  
9 school year, which was a 30% increase from the year before; and

10 WHEREAS, The purpose of this resolution is to educate the  
11 public about the prevalence of students experiencing  
12 homelessness, the barriers that may prevent youths from  
13 attending school and the McKinney-Vento Homeless Assistance Act  
14 (Public Law 100-77, 101 Stat. 482), which all schools must  
15 comply with to overcome those barriers; and

16 WHEREAS, There are limited resources available to youths  
17 experiencing homelessness, including the shortage of affordable  
18 housing for displaced minors; and

1 WHEREAS, Homeless assistance service providers, as well as  
2 community service opportunities for students and school service  
3 organizations need public support; and

4 WHEREAS, There are many organizations committed to sheltering  
5 and providing support services, meals and food supplies to  
6 people experiencing homelessness. However, very few of these  
7 services are specific to the needs of unaccompanied minors; and

8 WHEREAS, Many shelters will not accept a child under 18 years  
9 of age without the company of a parent or guardian; and

10 WHEREAS, There is still a dire need for additional resources  
11 to assist students experiencing homelessness to attend school  
12 and be successful, including the basic needs of food, clothing  
13 and educational supplies; and

14 WHEREAS, To show Statewide solidarity with children  
15 experiencing homelessness and their educators, the House of  
16 Representatives encourages Pennsylvanians to wear red on  
17 November 20, 2020, for "Red Shirt Day"; and

18 WHEREAS, The purpose of "Pennsylvania Education for Students  
19 Experiencing Homelessness Awareness Week" is to encourage  
20 schools, communities and individuals to plan for and support  
21 assistance programs for youths experiencing homelessness as they  
22 look to complete their education; therefore be it

23 RESOLVED, That the House of Representatives designate the  
24 week of November 16 through 20, 2020, as "Pennsylvania Education  
25 for Students Experiencing Homelessness Awareness Week" and  
26 November 20, 2020, as "Red Shirt Day" in Pennsylvania; and be it  
27 further

28 RESOLVED, That the House of Representatives urge all  
29 residents of this Commonwealth to recognize that education is  
30 key to preventing future homelessness and provides stability and

1 support to youths experiencing homelessness.