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THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF PENNSYLVANIA

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# SENATE RESOLUTION

No. 64 Session of  
2021

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INTRODUCED BY SANTARSIERO, HUGHES, BOSCOLA, KANE, FONTANA,  
KEARNEY, COLLETT, STREET, YUDICHAK, COMMITTA, BREWSTER, COSTA  
AND MUTH, APRIL 16, 2021

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REFERRED TO RULES AND EXECUTIVE NOMINATIONS, APRIL 16, 2021

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A RESOLUTION

1 Recognizing February 15, 2021, as "Love is Love Day" in  
2 Pennsylvania.

3 WHEREAS, Each year, February 14, Valentine's Day is  
4 celebrated and receives a great deal of media attention with  
5 couples and loved ones proclaiming their love for each other;  
6 and

7 WHEREAS, Individuals who identify as lesbian, gay, bisexual,  
8 transgender, queer or questioning, asexual and other sexual  
9 minorities (LGBTQ+) are often excluded from mainstream media  
10 coverage of Valentine's Day; and

11 WHEREAS, Being an adolescent during a time when those around  
12 you are expressing their love for each other can be  
13 overwhelming, especially if you do not see examples you identify  
14 with; and

15 WHEREAS, Twenty-six percent of LGBTQ+ youths say their  
16 biggest problems are not being accepted by their family, trouble  
17 at school and fear to be out or open; and

1       WHEREAS, Consequently, it is crucial for residents of this  
2 Commonwealth to offer love to LGBTQ+ youths and become their  
3 allies; and

4       WHEREAS, The manner in which parents and guardians engage  
5 with their LGBTQ+ youths can have a tremendous impact on their  
6 current and future mental and physical health; and

7       WHEREAS, LGBTQ+ students describe how hearing slurs, lacking  
8 resources relevant to their experience, being discouraged from  
9 having same-sex relationships and being regularly misgendered  
10 have made school a hostile environment; and

11       WHEREAS, LBGTQ+ students describe persistent patterns of  
12 isolation, exclusion and marginalization that make them feel  
13 unsafe or unwelcome at school; and

14       WHEREAS, Supporting and accepting LGBTQ+ youths around you,  
15 especially during a time when love is being celebrated, can  
16 often help these youths better deal with life challenges and how  
17 they are feeling; and

18       WHEREAS, In order to continue to promote the health and  
19 safety of LGBTQ+ youths, schools and programs where youths spend  
20 most of their time should advance the message of respecting  
21 those different from you and prohibit bullying, harassment and  
22 violence against those who identify as LGBTQ+; and

23       WHEREAS, Approximately 73% of LGBTQ+ youths say that they are  
24 more honest about themselves online than in the real world,  
25 making it urgent that more communities in this Commonwealth  
26 offer support to LGBTQ+ youths around them; and

27       WHEREAS, Encouraging families and allies to facilitate access  
28 to community-based providers who have experience providing  
29 health services, including medical testing and counseling,  
30 social and psychological services to LGBTQ+ youths is extremely

1 beneficial; and

2 WHEREAS, Accepting LGBTQ+ youths in our communities and in  
3 society at large helps remind those who we care about that love  
4 is love regardless of how they identify; therefore be it

5 RESOLVED, That the Senate recognize February 15, 2021, as  
6 "Love is Love Day" in Pennsylvania.