

A RESOLUTION

1 Recognizing the month of January 2014 as "Big Brothers Big
2 Sisters Month" in Pennsylvania.

3 WHEREAS, Big Brothers Big Sisters is a nonprofit organization
4 which establishes mentoring relationships to bring caring adults
5 into the lives of underserved and vulnerable children and
6 youths; and

7 WHEREAS, Children and youths who live in an area with a high
8 poverty rate or high incidence of juvenile arrests, come from a
9 single-parent household, are impacted by homelessness or
10 familial incarceration or attend a struggling school are often
11 at risk for academic or social failure; and

12 WHEREAS, Experienced persons serving as advisors, motivators
13 and friends can diminish risk factors, enhance protective
14 factors and make a lasting impact on the lives of younger
15 persons; and

16 WHEREAS, Working through a network of donors, partners,
17 family members, volunteers and advocates, Big Brothers Big

1 Sisters supports and enriches the life of each participant while
2 promoting and reinforcing positive activities, behaviors and
3 attitudes in our communities; and

4 WHEREAS, Children and youths who participate in Big Brothers
5 Big Sisters perform better in school and develop better
6 relationships with their families and peers; and

7 WHEREAS, Children and youths facing adverse or challenging
8 circumstances particularly benefit from strong, enduring,
9 professionally supported one-to-one mentoring relationships; and

10 WHEREAS, Big Brothers Big Sisters of Southeastern
11 Pennsylvania makes meaningful, monitored matches between adult
12 volunteers (Bigs) and young people (Littles) throughout Chester,
13 Delaware, Montgomery and Philadelphia Counties; and

14 WHEREAS, Big Brothers Big Sisters of Southeastern
15 Pennsylvania, partnering with parents or guardians and community
16 volunteers, makes and supports nearly 3,000 mentoring matches
17 each year; and

18 WHEREAS, An estimated 120,000 underserved children in
19 Southeastern Pennsylvania remain at risk for social or academic
20 failure; and

21 WHEREAS, Under the leadership of chief executive officer
22 Marcus Allen, Big Brothers Big Sisters of Southeastern
23 Pennsylvania is committed to providing academic, employment,
24 housing and family support services as needed to address the
25 personal challenges and higher aspirations of children and
26 youths throughout the region; therefore be it

27 RESOLVED, That the House of Representatives recognize the
28 month of January 2014 as "Big Brothers Big Sisters Month" in
29 Pennsylvania.