

A RESOLUTION

1 Recognizing February 2014 as "Hockey Is For Everyone Month" in
2 Pennsylvania.

3 WHEREAS, Hockey Is For Everyone (HIFE) is the National Hockey
4 League's official youth development program which provides
5 support and unique programming to nonprofit youth hockey
6 organizations across North America; and

7 WHEREAS, HIFE uses hockey as a catalyst to help children
8 learn essential life skills, education and core values of
9 hockey: commitment, perseverance and teamwork; and

10 WHEREAS, Hockey is greatly enjoyed by Pennsylvanians both at
11 the professional level, with the State boasting championship
12 teams at various levels of the sport, and at the local level
13 through public participation in adult and youth hockey leagues
14 and programs; and

15 WHEREAS, The popularity of hockey in this Commonwealth is
16 growing, with USA Hockey recording a 25% increase in registered
17 participants since 2005, including a 91% increase in adult

1 participation and a 132% increase in youngsters under seven
2 years of age taking up the sport; and

3 WHEREAS, This growth in hockey activity has made Pennsylvania
4 one of the top five states in terms of participation, with youth
5 and adult programs becoming more mainstream in communities
6 across this Commonwealth; and

7 WHEREAS, Pennsylvanians with disabilities are also served by
8 HIFE programs such as the Mighty Penguins Sled Hockey, which
9 operates therapeutic and competitive ice hockey programs for the
10 benefit of cognitively and physically disabled individuals in
11 Pennsylvania and adjacent areas; and

12 WHEREAS, Programs like HIFE have helped introduce hockey to
13 underserved populations and sections of this State like never
14 before, encouraging more people, both young and old, to take up
15 the sport and enjoy the fun and benefits it adds to their lives;
16 therefore be it

17 RESOLVED, That the House of Representatives recognize
18 February 2014 as "Hockey Is For Everyone Month" in Pennsylvania
19 and encourage both young people and adults to enjoy the sport of
20 hockey by participating or watching a game with family members.