

THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF PENNSYLVANIA

HOUSE RESOLUTION

No. 172 Session of 2009

INTRODUCED BY SAYLOR, TALLMAN, GILLESPIE, MILLER, GROVE,
DePASQUALE, BEYER, BOYD, BRENNAN, BURNS, COHEN, CONKLIN,
D. COSTA, CREIGHTON, DELOZIER, DIGIROLAMO, DONATUCCI,
FRANKEL, GEIST, GEORGE, GINGRICH, GOODMAN, GRUCELA, HELM,
HENNESSEY, HESS, HICKERNELL, HUTCHINSON, JOHNSON, KAUFFMAN,
KORTZ, KOTIK, LONGIETTI, MAHONEY, MAJOR, MANN, McCALL, MELIO,
MICOZZIE, MILLARD, MILNE, MOUL, MUNDY, MUSTIO, OBERLANDER,
O'NEILL, PALLONE, PAYNE, PHILLIPS, PICKETT, QUINN, READSHAW,
ROSS, SAINATO, SANTONI, SIPTROTH, K. SMITH, SONNEY, SWANGER,
J. TAYLOR, TRUE, TURZAI, VEREB, VULAKOVICH AND WALKO,
MARCH 19, 2009

INTRODUCED AS NONCONTROVERSIAL RESOLUTION UNDER RULE 35, MARCH
19, 2009

A RESOLUTION

1 Designating March 25, 2009, as "Kick Butts Day" in Pennsylvania.

2 WHEREAS, The tobacco industry spends more than \$15.4 billion
3 a year, more than \$40.8 million a day, \$1.7 million in one hour,
4 \$58,000 every two minutes--the time it takes to brush your
5 teeth--on advertising and marketing its deadly products, much of
6 it aimed at children and youth; and

7 WHEREAS, In this nation alone, tobacco use costs \$96 billion
8 in health care every year, which is an increase of \$7 billion
9 over last year's costs, and the average Commonwealth household
10 now pays \$638 a year and each of us who is a Federal and State
11 taxpayer must forfeit \$6,124.80 a year just to cover the tobacco
12 smoking caused tax burden and related government spending, even

1 if no one in the household smokes tobacco; and

2 WHEREAS, Each day roughly 4,000 youth under the age of 18 try
3 smoking for the first time, and more than 1,500 youth become new
4 regular, daily smokers, and one in three of these youth will die
5 prematurely because of tobacco use; and

6 WHEREAS, Worldwide, tobacco kills one person every 6.4
7 seconds, 559 people every hour and 13,400 people every day, with
8 one American dying every 72 seconds and 1,200 Americans dying
9 every single day; and

10 WHEREAS, Almost 90% of adults who have ever been regular
11 tobacco smokers report they began smoking by the time they were
12 18 years of age; and

13 WHEREAS, Adult male smokers lose an average of 13 years of
14 life and adult female smokers lose an average of 15 years of
15 life; and

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

20 WHEREAS, The "Kick Butts Day" campaign will be celebrated in
21 every community on Wednesday, March 25, 2009; and

22 WHEREAS, Businesses, government, law enforcement, schools,
23 faith-based institutions, service organizations, youth,
24 physicians, senior citizens, military, sports teams and
25 individuals from all other walks of life will demonstrate their
26 commitment to tobacco-free, healthy lifestyles by participating
27 in this campaign; therefore be it

28 RESOLVED, That the House of Representatives designate March
29 25, 2009, as "Kick Butts Day" in Pennsylvania, and encourage
30 citizens of all ages to participate in tobacco cessation and

1 prevention education activities to make a visible show of
2 support for our strong commitment to a tobacco-free community,
3 encouraging all youth and adults to pledge to be tobacco-free.