

---

THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF PENNSYLVANIA

---

HOUSE RESOLUTION

No. 617 Session of  
2010

---

INTRODUCED BY WHEATLEY, BEYER, BOYLE, BRIGGS, CALTAGIRONE,  
COHEN, D. COSTA, DIGIROLAMO, DONATUCCI, FLECK, FRANKEL,  
FREEMAN, GINGRICH, GOODMAN, GRUCELA, HELM, HENNESSEY, HESS,  
HOUGHTON, KORTZ, LONGIETTI, MAHONEY, MAJOR, MANN, McCALL,  
MARKOSEK, McILVAINE SMITH, MILLARD, MURT, D. O'BRIEN,  
M. O'BRIEN, PARKER, PAYTON, PRESTON, REICHLEY, ROEBUCK, ROSS,  
SANTONI, SIPTROTH, VULAKOVICH, WATERS, WATSON AND YOUNGBLOOD,  
FEBRUARY 3, 2010

---

INTRODUCED AS NONCONTROVERSIAL RESOLUTION UNDER RULE 35,  
FEBRUARY 3, 2010

---

A RESOLUTION

1 Recognizing February 7, 2010, as "National Black HIV/AIDS  
2 Awareness Day" in Pennsylvania.

3 WHEREAS, The Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC)  
4 reports that the devastating effect of HIV/AIDS has reached an  
5 epidemic level among African Americans; and

6 WHEREAS, At every stage, from HIV diagnosis through the death  
7 of persons with AIDS, the most affected racial or ethnic group  
8 is, by far, African Americans; and

9 WHEREAS, Among diseases that disproportionately affect  
10 African Americans, HIV/AIDS has a particularly damaging effect;  
11 and

12 WHEREAS, Even though African Americans comprise approximately  
13 13% of the United States population, they account for roughly  
14 one-half of the estimated new HIV/AIDS diagnoses in the United

1 States each year; and

2 WHEREAS, More African-American children have been afflicted  
3 with HIV/AIDS than children from all other races and  
4 ethnicities; and

5 WHEREAS, AIDS has become a leading cause of death for African  
6 Americans; and

7 WHEREAS, African Americans with AIDS do not live as long as  
8 people in other racial or ethnic groups who have AIDS; and

9 WHEREAS, February 7 is "National Black HIV/AIDS Awareness  
10 Day"; and

11 WHEREAS, This annual observance was created to raise  
12 awareness among African Americans about HIV/AIDS and its  
13 devastating impact on African-American communities; and

14 WHEREAS, The day is part of a national mobilization effort to  
15 encourage African Americans to learn more about the threat posed  
16 by the disease, obtain testing and treatment and make a  
17 commitment to fight HIV/AIDS; and

18 WHEREAS, Awareness is a vital step in stopping the spread of  
19 this disease; therefore be it

20 RESOLVED, That the House of Representatives recognize  
21 February 7, 2010, as "National Black HIV/AIDS Awareness Day" in  
22 Pennsylvania to ensure that the residents of this Commonwealth  
23 are aware of the destructive effect of HIV/AIDS on the African-  
24 American community.