

THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF PENNSYLVANIA

# HOUSE RESOLUTION

No. 214 Session of 2011

INTRODUCED BY CURRY, CLYMER, BENNINGHOFF, BOBACK, BOYD, BRIGGS, V. BROWN, COHEN, D. COSTA, DAVIS, FABRIZIO, FLECK, GERBER, HARKINS, HENNESSEY, HESS, KORTZ, MILLARD, MILNE, PASHINSKI, QUINN, READSHAW, SCHRODER, K. SMITH, TOEPEL, VULAKOVICH, YOUNGBLOOD AND GILLESPIE, APRIL 13, 2011

REFERRED TO COMMITTEE ON CONSUMER AFFAIRS, APRIL 13, 2011

## A RESOLUTION

1 Alerting the citizens of this Commonwealth about the release of  
2 "School Shooter: North American Tour 2012," strongly urging  
3 parents, guardians and others who care for children to  
4 carefully monitor their children's use of all media and  
5 encouraging retailers to refrain from selling School Shooter  
6 in their retail establishments.

7 WHEREAS, "School Shooter: North American Tour 2012" is a  
8 first-person video game developed by Checkerboard Studios that  
9 allows players to assume the roles of the perpetrators of the  
10 campus massacres at Columbine High School, Virginia Tech and  
11 Northern Illinois University; and

12 WHEREAS, School Shooter is programmed to provide players with  
13 weapons modeled after those used by the perpetrators of these  
14 campus massacres and lets the player roam freely through school-  
15 themed levels, shooting video depictions of people at will; and

16 WHEREAS, Given that the tragedies that took place at  
17 Columbine and these universities are among the most horrible  
18 acts of campus-based violence in American history, the lack of

1 empathy within this game for victims, their families, friends  
2 and other loved ones is upsetting, morally reprehensible and  
3 disrespectful; and

4 WHEREAS, Though other first-person shooter video games are  
5 available for play, the portrayal of campus-based tragedies and  
6 the death of children and young adults as entertainment is  
7 particularly objectionable; and

8 WHEREAS, The release of this excessively violent game is  
9 generating concern among educators, school administrators, law  
10 enforcement and suicide prevention groups; and

11 WHEREAS, The Pennsylvania Department of Health's Bureau of  
12 Drug and Alcohol Programs feels the game is a serious threat to  
13 the health and safety of students and campuses and has urged  
14 their treatment and prevention professionals to take a formal  
15 stand against the release of this game; and

16 WHEREAS, It is in the public interest of children and the  
17 citizens of this Commonwealth to keep School Shooter and other  
18 morally reprehensible video games out of the hands of children;  
19 therefore be it

20 RESOLVED, That the House of Representatives, through this  
21 resolution, alert parents, students, school personnel and  
22 citizens of this Commonwealth about the release of "School  
23 Shooter: North American Tour 2012"; and be it further

24 RESOLVED, That the House of Representatives urge the game's  
25 creators and distributors to cease production and distribution  
26 of School Shooter; and be it further

27 RESOLVED, That the House of Representatives strongly  
28 encourage parents, guardians and others to carefully monitor  
29 their children's use of all media and encourage that they assist  
30 in controlling the video games their children play; and be it

1 further

2 RESOLVED, That the House of Representatives urge retailers to  
3 better monitor and police sales and purchases of violent video  
4 games and not to offer School Shooter for sale at their retail  
5 establishments; and be it further

6 RESOLVED, That the House of Representatives encourage media,  
7 including the print and broadcast media, to inform readers and  
8 viewers about the release and content of School Shooter; and be  
9 it further

10 RESOLVED, That the General Assembly seriously consider the  
11 establishment of a consumer education program on video and  
12 computer games as recommended in the Joint State Government  
13 Commission's Report of the Task Force on Violent Interactive  
14 Video Games.