

THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF PENNSYLVANIA

HOUSE RESOLUTION

No. 298 Session of
2011

INTRODUCED BY MUSTIO, GRELL, GINGRICH, KOTIK, READSHAW, CLYMER,
CREIGHTON, BRADFORD, BRENNAN, EVERETT, FLECK, HARHAI,
HARKINS, HENNESSEY, HORNAMAN, LONGIETTI, MILLARD, MOUL, ROSS,
SCAVELLO, WAGNER AND FABRIZIO, MAY 23, 2011

INTRODUCED AS NONCONTROVERSIAL RESOLUTION UNDER RULE 35, MAY 23,
2011

A RESOLUTION

1 Recognizing the outstanding contributions of ASSET Inc.

2 WHEREAS, ASSET Inc., which stands for Achieving Student
3 Success Through Excellence in Teaching, is a science education
4 improvement initiative advancing science teaching and learning
5 in kindergarten through eighth grade in Pennsylvania through
6 teacher professional development and hands-on curriculum
7 materials; and

8 WHEREAS, ASSET's proven track record of improving student
9 achievement has garnered State support for a Statewide
10 elementary education program known as "Science: It's
11 Elementary," since 2006; and

12 WHEREAS, Through the investments by the General Assembly and
13 partnerships with the Department of Education, ASSET has helped
14 position Pennsylvania as a leader in science education reform;
15 and

16 WHEREAS, Because of the partnership between ASSET and the

1 Department of Education, elementary students are learning
2 science through the best education practices, which are
3 delivered by highly dedicated and qualified educators who have
4 participated in ASSET's rigorous professional development
5 program; and

6 WHEREAS, An educational evaluation firm found that "Science:
7 It's Elementary" changes school district culture, resulting in
8 more frequent science lessons being taught in classrooms, leads
9 to significant improvements in student achievement and, for
10 teachers who engage in rigorous, ongoing professional
11 development, increases science content knowledge and confidence
12 in teaching science; and

13 WHEREAS, An independent evaluation found that fourth-grade
14 students in ASSET member schools scored statistically
15 significantly higher than their peers in demographically similar
16 comparison schools on the Pennsylvania System of School
17 Assessments in science; and

18 WHEREAS, ASSET directly impacts 4,000 teachers and 150,000
19 students annually in approximately 140 school districts, charter
20 schools and private schools in Pennsylvania; and

21 WHEREAS, Since its establishment in 1994, ASSET has provided
22 school districts across this Commonwealth with quality
23 educational opportunities by bringing together governmental
24 agencies, corporations, foundations and universities in support
25 of science education reform; and

26 WHEREAS, ASSET has successfully implemented science education
27 programs across Pennsylvania and achieved a record of student
28 achievement results; therefore be it

29 RESOLVED, That the House of Representatives recognize the
30 outstanding contributions of this science education reform

1 initiative, ASSET Inc., and congratulate its success in securing
2 a highly competitive Federal Investing in Innovation grant - one
3 of 49 in the nation and one of only two in Pennsylvania - to
4 further improve science education in Pennsylvania and serve as a
5 model for the nation.