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THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF PENNSYLVANIA

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HOUSE RESOLUTION

No. 339 Session of  
2011

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INTRODUCED BY JOHNSON, KIRKLAND, CALTAGIRONE, BROWNLEE, MANN,  
KORTZ, FABRIZIO, YOUNGBLOOD, HANNA, MIRABITO, V. BROWN,  
WHEATLEY, READSHAW, BRENNAN, MOUL AND THOMAS, JUNE 13, 2011

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INTRODUCED AS NONCONTROVERSIAL RESOLUTION UNDER RULE 35, JUNE  
13, 2011

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A RESOLUTION

1 Recognizing and honoring Mr. Will Little for his achievements  
2 and his contributions to the Greater Philadelphia area.

3 WHEREAS, Will Little was born and raised with four other  
4 siblings in a single-parent home in South Philadelphia; and

5 WHEREAS, As an intelligent although misguided youth, Mr.  
6 Little found himself ensnared in the violence and mayhem which  
7 accompany a life of crime and delinquency; and

8 WHEREAS, At the age of 19, Mr. Little found himself engulfed  
9 by this lifestyle, which culminated in the loss of a human life  
10 at his hands; and

11 WHEREAS, He was convicted and sentenced to serve a term of  
12 10-20 years in a State correctional institution; and

13 WHEREAS, During this period, he redirected his focus toward  
14 education and successfully obtained a General Educational  
15 Development diploma; and

16 WHEREAS, He developed a thirst for knowledge and a desire to  
17 become a righteous and productive individual; and

1       WHEREAS, In 1998, after ten years of confinement, Mr. Little  
2 emerged from prison a rehabilitated and redeemed person; and

3       WHEREAS, He initially confronted many obstacles in his  
4 pursuit of employment but remained determined and steadfast; and

5       WHEREAS, Mr. Little would eventually orient himself toward  
6 the barber vocation, honing his craft while on the job; and

7       WHEREAS, In 2003, Mr. Little developed a program called  
8 Poetry N Motion, which utilizes the art form of poetry to show  
9 younger and older people how to overcome life's trials and  
10 obstacles through understanding and positive action; and

11       WHEREAS, Mr. Little and the Poetry N Motion program gained  
12 Statewide success, enjoying such audiences as the student body  
13 and faculty of Girard College, former Mayor John Street, Judge  
14 Mathis, Bill Cosby and actor Charles S. Dutton; and

15       WHEREAS, The Poetry N Motion program has become impactful for  
16 the youth and citizens of the Philadelphia area by partnering  
17 with other local organizations and providing workshops; and

18       WHEREAS, Mr. Little and the Poetry N Motion program has  
19 received widespread media coverage, being featured on numerous  
20 local news programs as well as receiving a front page article in  
21 the Philadelphia Daily News; and

22       WHEREAS, The scope and magnitude of the Poetry N Motion  
23 program and his story inspired his autobiography, *I.C.Y. The*  
24 *Life and Times of Will Little*; and

25       WHEREAS, For two and a half years Mr. Little hosted his own  
26 talk show in an effort to further broaden his message; and

27       WHEREAS, As a token of appreciation, Mr. Little received  
28 awards and citations from the Philadelphia Mayor's Office, the  
29 Lieutenant Governor's Office of Pennsylvania and the former  
30 Prison Commissioner Leon King, and he was the recipient of the

1 2010 Lucien E. Blackwell Guiding Light Award; therefore be it  
2 RESOLVED, That the House of Representatives recognize and  
3 honor the achievements and contributions of Mr. Will Little to  
4 the Greater Philadelphia area.