

THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF PENNSYLVANIA

# HOUSE RESOLUTION

No. 456 Session of 2011

INTRODUCED BY GEIST, BAKER, BOBACK, BOYD, BRENNAN, BROOKS,  
R. BROWN, V. BROWN, CAUSER, CLYMER, P. COSTA, DALEY,  
DELOZIER, DIGIROLAMO, ELLIS, EMRICK, J. EVANS, EVERETT,  
FABRIZIO, FLECK, GABLER, GEORGE, GINGRICH, GODSHALL, GRELL,  
HAHN, HARHAI, HEFFLEY, HELM, HENNESSEY, HESS, HICKERNELL,  
F. KELLER, M. K. KELLER, KILLION, KNOWLES, KORTZ, LONGIETTI,  
MAJOR, MANN, MARSICO, METCALFE, MICOZZIE, MILLARD, MILLER,  
MIRABITO, MOUL, MULLERY, MURPHY, MUSTIO, O'NEILL, PASHINSKI,  
PAYNE, PETRI, PICKETT, READSHAW, REICHLEY, ROCK, ROSS,  
SAINATO, SANTONI, SAYLOR, SCAVELLO, CULVER, SCHRODER, SONNEY,  
STERN, SWANGER, TALLMAN, VEREB, VULAKOVICH, WAGNER, WATSON  
AND YOUNGBLOOD, OCTOBER 14, 2011

INTRODUCED AS NONCONTROVERSIAL RESOLUTION UNDER RULE 35, OCTOBER  
14, 2011

## A RESOLUTION

1 Supporting the goals and ideals of "School Bus Safety Week,"  
2 which is being celebrated during the week of October 16  
3 through 22, 2011.

4 WHEREAS, Approximately 31,511 yellow school buses in this  
5 Commonwealth carry more than 1.5 million children to and from  
6 school every weekday; and

7 WHEREAS, This Commonwealth's 31,511 school buses comprise the  
8 largest mass transportation fleet in this nation, 2.5 times the  
9 size of all other forms of mass transportation, including  
10 transit, intercity buses, commercial airlines and all rail,  
11 combined; and

12 WHEREAS, During the school year, school buses make more than  
13 3 million passenger trips daily carrying this Commonwealth's

1 future, our children; and

2 WHEREAS, School bus transportation is thirteen times safer  
3 than traveling in a passenger vehicle and is the safest form of  
4 ground transportation available; and

5 WHEREAS, School buses meet higher construction, equipment and  
6 inspection standards than any other vehicle, and school bus  
7 drivers meet higher qualification, training and testing  
8 standards than any other drivers; and

9 WHEREAS, According to the National Academy of Sciences, an  
10 average of 820 students nationwide are killed annually during  
11 school transportation hours, but less than 2% of those victims  
12 are school bus passengers; and

13 WHEREAS, Despite the industry's best efforts, accidents still  
14 happen; and

15 WHEREAS, Nationwide, an average of seven school-age  
16 passengers are killed in school bus crashes each year, and an  
17 average of 19 children are killed each year getting on and off  
18 school buses; and

19 WHEREAS, In this Commonwealth, no school-age passengers have  
20 been killed in a school bus crash over a five-year period, and  
21 only two school-age children were killed getting on or off the  
22 bus; and

23 WHEREAS, Most of those victims were children five to seven  
24 years of age and most often the children were killed in the area  
25 immediately surrounding the bus, either by a passing vehicle or  
26 by the bus itself; and

27 WHEREAS, "School Bus Safety Week," which is celebrated in  
28 more than 40 states and sponsored by the National Highway  
29 Traffic Safety Administration, was created to remind all  
30 students of the best ways to get on and off the bus in an effort

1 to enhance the safety of this nation's children; and

2 WHEREAS, "School Bus Safety Week," which dates back to 1966,  
3 also recognizes the hard work and dedication of school  
4 transportation personnel, especially the many school bus drivers  
5 who ensure a safe journey each and every day; and

6 WHEREAS, "School Bus Safety Week," which is being celebrated  
7 during the week of October 16 through 22, 2011, promotes  
8 awareness through State and local poster and speech contests,  
9 lessons utilizing school bus safety community awareness kits and  
10 other activities built around themes that raise awareness of  
11 school bus safety issues; therefore be it

12 RESOLVED, That the House of Representatives support the goals  
13 and ideals of "School Bus Safety Week," which is being  
14 celebrated during the week of October 16 through 22, 2011.