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THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF PENNSYLVANIA

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HOUSE RESOLUTION

No. 33 Session of 2017

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INTRODUCED BY NESBIT, QUIGLEY, NEILSON, SONNEY, DUSH,  
CALTAGIRONE, MURT, LONGIETTI, HELM, SCHLOSSBERG, SAYLOR,  
DEAN, WATSON, MATZIE, MACKENZIE, READSHAW, RYAN, ROZZI,  
DIGIROLAMO, MILLARD, O'NEILL, WARD, BIZZARRO, PICKETT,  
SAINATO, MARSICO, KINSEY, SCHWEYER, B. MILLER, GILLEN,  
V. BROWN, GABLER AND FREEMAN, JANUARY 23, 2017

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INTRODUCED AS NONCONTROVERSIAL RESOLUTION UNDER RULE 35,  
JANUARY 23, 2017

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A RESOLUTION

1 Recognizing the month of January 2017 as "National Mentoring  
2 Month" in Pennsylvania.

3 WHEREAS, Evidence-based mentoring is a longstanding concept  
4 in which a dependable adult provides guidance, support and  
5 encouragement to facilitate a young person's social, emotional  
6 and cognitive development; and

7 WHEREAS, High-quality, evidence-based mentoring promotes  
8 positive outcomes for young people, including an increased sense  
9 of industry and competency, a boost in academic performance and  
10 self-esteem and improved social and communications skills; and

11 WHEREAS, Research shows that participation in a high-quality,  
12 evidence-based mentoring relationship successfully reduces the  
13 incidence of violence, delinquency, substance abuse and academic  
14 failure in young people; and

15 WHEREAS, Research also shows that participation in a high-

1 quality, evidence-based mentoring relationship dramatically  
2 reduces dependence on social services and results in a cost  
3 benefit to the Commonwealth; and

4 WHEREAS, Evidence-based mentoring, in addition to being  
5 beneficial for those being mentored, is also extremely rewarding  
6 for those serving as mentors; and

7 WHEREAS, Quality programs that encourage young people to  
8 learn about evidence-based mentoring and to become mentors, such  
9 as programs that recruit high school students to mentor younger  
10 children, are important and have the potential to create high-  
11 quality mentors at an early age; and

12 WHEREAS, Evidence-based mentoring relationships have grown  
13 dramatically in the past 15 years due to the remarkable  
14 creativity, vigor and resourcefulness of evidence-based  
15 mentoring programs and volunteer mentors in communities  
16 throughout this Commonwealth with the programs now reaching an  
17 estimated 12,000 young Pennsylvanians; and

18 WHEREAS, In spite of the progress made to increase evidence-  
19 based mentoring, this Commonwealth has a serious mentoring gap,  
20 with thousands of young people currently in need of mentors; and

21 WHEREAS, A recent study confirmed that one of the most  
22 critical challenges that evidence-based mentoring programs face  
23 is recruiting enough mentors to help close the mentoring gap;  
24 and

25 WHEREAS, The monthlong celebration of evidence-based  
26 mentoring encourages more individuals and organizations,  
27 including schools, businesses, nonprofit organizations, faith  
28 institutions and foundations, to become engaged in evidence-  
29 based mentoring across this Commonwealth; and

30 WHEREAS, "National Mentoring Month" builds awareness of

1 evidence-based mentoring and recruits more individuals to become  
2 mentors, thus helping to close our nation's mentoring gap;  
3 therefore be it

4       RESOLVED, That the House of Representatives recognize the  
5 month of January 2017 as "National Mentoring Month" in  
6 Pennsylvania; and be it further

7       RESOLVED, That the House of Representatives acknowledge the  
8 diligent efforts of individuals and groups promoting evidence-  
9 based mentoring and observing "National Mentoring Month" with  
10 appropriate ceremonies and activities to further promote  
11 awareness of and volunteer involvement with youth mentoring; and  
12 be it further

13       RESOLVED, That the House of Representatives recognize with  
14 gratitude the contributions of the millions of caring adults and  
15 students who are already volunteering as mentors and encourage  
16 more adults and students to volunteer as mentors.