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THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF PENNSYLVANIA

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HOUSE RESOLUTION

No. 38 Session of  
2017

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INTRODUCED BY MURT, READSHAW, BAKER, BOBACK, DEAN, DIGIROLAMO,  
DRISCOLL, DUSH, FREEMAN, HENNESSEY, KINSEY, LONGIETTI,  
MACKENZIE, MATZIE, McNEILL, O'BRIEN, PASHINSKI, RYAN,  
SCHWEYER, SONNEY, STAATS AND TOOHL, JANUARY 24, 2017

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INTRODUCED AS NONCONTROVERSIAL RESOLUTION UNDER RULE 35,  
JANUARY 24, 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-  
16 quality, evidence-based mentoring relationship dramatically

1 reduces dependence on social services and results in a cost  
2 benefit to the Commonwealth; and

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

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

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

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

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

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

29 WHEREAS, "National Mentoring Month" builds awareness of  
30 evidence-based mentoring and recruits more individuals to become

1 mentors, thus helping to close our nation's mentoring gap; and

2 WHEREAS, The House of Representatives recognizes, with  
3 gratitude, the contributions of the millions of caring adults  
4 and students who are already volunteering as mentors and  
5 encourage more adults and students to volunteer as mentors;  
6 therefore be it

7 RESOLVED, That the House of Representatives recognize the  
8 month of January 2017 as "National Mentoring Month," acknowledge  
9 the diligent efforts of individuals and groups who are promoting  
10 evidence-based mentoring and who are holding appropriate  
11 ceremonies and activities to further promote awareness of and  
12 volunteer involvement with youth mentoring.