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THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF PENNSYLVANIA

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HOUSE RESOLUTION

No. 126 Session of  
2017

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INTRODUCED BY CRUZ, YOUNGBLOOD, DONATUCCI, BULLOCK, THOMAS,  
MURT, DRISCOLL, V. BROWN, D. COSTA, MILLARD AND KORTZ,  
MARCH 7, 2017

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REFERRED TO COMMITTEE ON ENVIRONMENTAL RESOURCES AND ENERGY,  
MARCH 7, 2017

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A RESOLUTION

1 Urging the City of Philadelphia to establish a year-round  
2 program providing for the safe removal and adequate disposal  
3 of illegally discarded waste tires.

4 WHEREAS, The House of Representatives notes the various  
5 issues associated with the improper disposal of waste tires,  
6 including the economic, environmental and health impacts on the  
7 landscape, property values and residents of Philadelphia; and

8 WHEREAS, The House of Representatives acknowledges that there  
9 exists a critical need for the City of Philadelphia to implement  
10 a year-round tire clean-up program and to invest or participate  
11 in environmentally safe tire recycling programs established  
12 within this Commonwealth; and

13 WHEREAS, Waste tires pose an even greater threat to the  
14 health and welfare of the residents of Philadelphia as they  
15 collect rain water and serve as an optimal habitat for breeding  
16 mosquitoes, which may be the carriers of the potentially fatal  
17 West Nile virus; and

1       WHEREAS, Additional dangers, including waste tire pile fires  
2 are equally hazardous and release toxic gases into the  
3 atmosphere that adversely affect the lives of human beings and  
4 the surrounding ecosystem; and

5       WHEREAS, The smoldering waste tire pile fire that occurred on  
6 March 14, 1996, near an I-95 overpass in Philadelphia is proof  
7 of the impact of waste tire pollution; and

8       WHEREAS, According to the Pennsylvania Department of  
9 Environmental Protection, in 1996 it was estimated that 36  
10 million waste tires were discarded in piles throughout  
11 Pennsylvania; and

12       WHEREAS, Notwithstanding the successful collaboration between  
13 the General Assembly, the Pennsylvania Department of  
14 Environmental Protection and local governments in past years, it  
15 is estimated that there are approximately 1.5 million waste  
16 tires that still need to be cleaned up in this Commonwealth; and

17       WHEREAS, The establishment of a year-round waste tire removal  
18 program would effectively address the public health issues and  
19 have a positive impact on our environment as a result of safe  
20 and proper waste tire disposal through the use of tire  
21 remediation facilities; and

22       WHEREAS, The House of Representatives encourages the City of  
23 Philadelphia to increase the scope of its current Tire Round-Up  
24 Program by evolving it into a year-round program; and

25       WHEREAS, The City of Philadelphia is further encouraged to  
26 work closely with city officials and to seek grants allocated  
27 for the purpose of funding beautification projects and other  
28 environmentally oriented programs; therefore be it

29       RESOLVED, That the House of Representatives urge the City of  
30 Philadelphia to establish a year-round program providing for

- 1 the safe and adequate disposal of illegally discarded waste
- 2 tires.