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THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF PENNSYLVANIA

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HOUSE RESOLUTION

No. 224 Session of  
2017

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INTRODUCED BY KORTZ, REESE, DiGIROLAMO, ROZZI, BAKER, CORBIN,  
HENNESSEY, DUSH, SONNEY, RYAN, PICKETT, MACKENZIE,  
SCHLOSSBERG, KAUFFMAN, LONGIETTI, McNEILL, MURT, SAYLOR,  
WATSON, BENNINGHOFF, MARSHALL, GODSHALL, TOEPEL, O'NEILL,  
MILLARD, MENTZER, KNOWLES, R. BROWN, D. COSTA, NEILSON,  
BIZZARRO, BOBACK, READSHAW, GERGELY, A. HARRIS, CALTAGIRONE,  
WARD, SANKEY, GROVE, DEASY, MARSICO, DeLUCA, GABLER, FREEMAN  
AND GILLEN, APRIL 10, 2017

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INTRODUCED AS NONCONTROVERSIAL RESOLUTION UNDER RULE 35,  
APRIL 10, 2017

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A RESOLUTION

1 Recognizing the 100th anniversary of Lions Clubs International.

2 WHEREAS, Melvin Jones is credited with being the founder of  
3 Lions Clubs International; and

4 WHEREAS, 100 years ago, Mr. Jones' vision became a reality,  
5 and a movement began to improve the lives of vulnerable people  
6 around the world; and

7 WHEREAS, At a meeting in Chicago in June 1917, Mr. Jones and  
8 fellow business leaders started the "Association of Lions  
9 Clubs"; and

10 WHEREAS, In 1920, a Lions Club charter opened in Windsor,  
11 Canada, and the organization became officially known as Lions  
12 Clubs International; and

13 WHEREAS, There are currently more than 46,000 local Lions  
14 Clubs in approximately 210 countries; and

1       WHEREAS, Lions Clubs International is the world's largest  
2 service organization, whose official motto is "We Serve"; and

3       WHEREAS, Over the years, Lions Clubs International has worked  
4 to provide vision screening service, guide dog sponsorships and  
5 support for pediatric eye care centers; and

6       WHEREAS, In 1930, Lion George Bonham painted a cane white  
7 with a red band to aid the visually impaired; and

8       WHEREAS, Helen Keller, who was blind and deaf and who became  
9 an advocate for people with disabilities, attended a Lions Clubs  
10 International convention in 1925 and challenged the organization  
11 to become "knights of the blind in the crusade against  
12 darkness"; and

13       WHEREAS, Lions Clubs International accepted Ms. Keller's  
14 challenge, and since then has been widely known for its service  
15 to the blind and visually impaired; and

16       WHEREAS, The organization later declared June 1 as "Helen  
17 Keller Day," which is recognized annually to promote sight-  
18 related programs and services; and

19       WHEREAS, Lions Clubs International has a connection to this  
20 Commonwealth; and

21       WHEREAS, In 1939, Lion Carl Edwin Stotz of Williamsport,  
22 Pennsylvania, appealed to local Lions Clubs and other community  
23 organizations for funding to start a baseball program for  
24 children; and

25       WHEREAS, In June 1939, the first Little League game was  
26 played in Williamsport, and is known as the Little League  
27 capital of the world; and

28       WHEREAS, In 1957, Lions Clubs International began  
29 implementing Leo Clubs that encourage youth to serve their  
30 communities; and

1       WHEREAS, The Lions Clubs International Foundation has given  
2 more than \$826 million in grants to support humanitarian  
3 efforts; and

4       WHEREAS, Lions Clubs International continues to be guided by  
5 the motto of Melvin Jones, "You can't get very far until you  
6 start doing something for somebody else"; therefore be it

7       RESOLVED, That the House of Representatives acknowledge the  
8 services and achievements of Lions Clubs International; and be  
9 it further

10       RESOLVED, That the House of Representatives recognize the  
11 100th anniversary of Lions Clubs International.