
THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF PENNSYLVANIA

HOUSE RESOLUTION

No. 456 Session of
2017

INTRODUCED BY MARSHALL, O'NEILL, BIZZARRO, R. BROWN,
CALTAGIRONE, CHARLTON, DIGIROLAMO, GROVE, HEFFLEY, JAMES,
KINSEY, LONGIETTI, MACKENZIE, MILLARD, MURT, NEILSON,
ORTITAY, PICKETT, READSHAW, ROZZI, SCHLOSSBERG, SCHWEYER,
TOOHIL, WARD, WARREN, WATSON, WHEELAND AND COMMITTA,
AUGUST 24, 2017

INTRODUCED AS NONCONTROVERSIAL RESOLUTION UNDER RULE 35,
AUGUST 24, 2017

A RESOLUTION

1 Designating the month of August 2017 as "#ABLEtoSave Month" in
2 Pennsylvania.

3 WHEREAS, According to the United States Census, approximately
4 56.7 million people, or 19% of the population in the United
5 States, have a disability; and

6 WHEREAS, Many individuals with disabilities rely upon Federal
7 benefits, including Medicaid and Supplemental Security Income,
8 to foster independence, maintain health, support employment,
9 participate in communities and enhance quality of life; and

10 WHEREAS, Prior to the passage of the Federal Stephen Beck Jr.
11 Achieving a Better Life Experience (ABLE) Act in 2014, millions
12 of individuals with disabilities were unable to save more than
13 \$2,000 in assets without jeopardizing their eligibility for
14 these critical Federal benefits; and

15 WHEREAS, More than 20 states have established ABLE programs

1 where millions of individuals with disabilities can save money
2 in a tax-exempt ABLE account that does not count toward the
3 \$2,000 asset cap; and

4 WHEREAS, Many individuals with disabilities and their
5 families are unaware of the life-changing potential of ABLE
6 accounts or are misinformed about the rules regarding these
7 accounts; and

8 WHEREAS, The ABLE National Resource Center
9 (www.ablenrc.org), a collaboration of more than 25 national
10 disability organizations whose goal is to provide consistent,
11 reliable information concerning the benefits of an ABLE account,
12 has developed a nationwide campaign, "#ABLEtoSave"; and

13 WHEREAS, The campaign educates individuals with disabilities
14 and their families, the financial sector and other stakeholders
15 about ABLE's potential positive impact on the lives of millions
16 of Americans with disabilities; and

17 WHEREAS, The goal of the #ABLEtoSave campaign is to enhance
18 awareness of ABLE accounts as a financial savings tool and to
19 increase the amount of ABLE accounts opened throughout the
20 United States; and

21 WHEREAS, The establishment of "#ABLEtoSave Month" encourages
22 all public, consumer, community-based and private sector
23 organizations to provide information and resources to residents
24 of this Commonwealth about ABLE accounts; therefore be it

25 RESOLVED, That the House of Representatives designate the
26 month of August 2017 as "#ABLEtoSave Month" in Pennsylvania.