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THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF PENNSYLVANIA

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HOUSE RESOLUTION

No. 599 Session of  
2017

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INTRODUCED BY WATSON, BAKER, BARRAR, BERNSTINE, BOBACK,  
V. BROWN, BURNS, CALTAGIRONE, CHARLTON, CORR, DEAN, DRISCOLL,  
DUSH, EVERETT, HELM, HICKERNELL, JAMES, KAVULICH, KINSEY,  
LONGIETTI, MACKENZIE, MALONEY, MARSICO, MILLARD, B. MILLER,  
MURT, NEILSON, PASHINSKI, PICKETT, RAPP, ROTHMAN, ROZZI,  
RYAN, SCHLOSSBERG, SCHWEYER, SONNEY, STAATS, THOMAS, TOOHL,  
WARD, WHEELAND AND GROVE, NOVEMBER 13, 2017

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INTRODUCED AS NONCONTROVERSIAL RESOLUTION UNDER RULE 35,  
NOVEMBER 13, 2017

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A RESOLUTION

1 Recognizing November 18, 2017, as "National Adoption Day" in  
2 Pennsylvania.

3 WHEREAS, Adoption provides a child with a lifetime connection  
4 to a family, profoundly changing the course of that child's life  
5 by providing stability, security, love and opportunity; and

6 WHEREAS, "National Adoption Day" is a collective national  
7 effort to raise awareness of more than 100,000 children across  
8 the United States who are in foster care and waiting to be  
9 adopted; and

10 WHEREAS, This annual one-day event held on the Saturday  
11 before Thanksgiving has made the dreams of thousands of children  
12 come true by working with policymakers, practitioners and  
13 advocates to finalize adoptions and further create and celebrate  
14 adoptive families; and

15 WHEREAS, Approximately 4,700 children in the United States

1 had their adoptions finalized on the 17th annual "National  
2 Adoption Day" in 2016; and

3 WHEREAS, Since its inception in 2000, "National Adoption Day"  
4 has helped nearly 65,000 children in the United States move from  
5 foster care to adoption; and

6 WHEREAS, More than 2,500 children in this Commonwealth are  
7 currently waiting to be adopted; and

8 WHEREAS, The average wait for a child in foster care to be  
9 adopted is three years; and

10 WHEREAS, More than 23,000 children in the United States age  
11 out of the foster care system every year with no family or  
12 permanent home; and

13 WHEREAS, The collaboration between and commitment of both  
14 public and private adoption agencies should be recognized as  
15 these agencies tirelessly address the needs of children  
16 throughout this Commonwealth and this nation; therefore be it

17 RESOLVED, That the House of Representatives recognize  
18 November 18, 2017, as "National Adoption Day" in Pennsylvania.