

THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF PENNSYLVANIA

HOUSE RESOLUTION

No. 149 Session of 2019

INTRODUCED BY BENNINGHOFF, BARRAR, BERNSTINE, BIZZARRO, BROWN, CALTAGIRONE, CIRESI, COX, SCHLEGEL CULVER, T. DAVIS, DEASY, DELLOSO, DeLUCA, DIGIROLAMO, EVERETT, FEE, FRITZ, GABLER, GREINER, HAHN, HENNESSEY, HERSHEY, HILL-EVANS, IRVIN, ISAACSON, JAMES, JOZWIAK, KAUFFMAN, KIM, KINSEY, KLUNK, KNOWLES, KORTZ, LAWRENCE, LONGIETTI, MACKENZIE, MALAGARI, MARKOSEK, MENTZER, MILLARD, MULLINS, MURT, NEILSON, NELSON, OBERLANDER, PASHINSKI, PICKETT, RAVENSTAHL, RIGBY, ROTHMAN, RYAN, SANKEY, SAYLOR, SCHLOSSBERG, SNYDER, STAATS, THOMAS, TOEPEL, WEBSTER AND READSHAW, MARCH 14, 2019

INTRODUCED AS NONCONTROVERSIAL RESOLUTION UNDER RULE 35, MARCH 14, 2019

A RESOLUTION

1 Congratulating The Pennsylvania State University IFC/Panhellenic
 2 Dance Marathon (THON) for raising more than \$10 million for
 3 the Four Diamonds Fund at Penn State Hershey Children's
 4 Hospital to help fight pediatric cancer.

5 WHEREAS, THON is the commonly referred-to name for The
 6 Pennsylvania State University IFC/Panhellenic Dance Marathon,
 7 the largest student-run philanthropy event in the world; and

8 WHEREAS, THON is a yearlong fundraising and awareness
 9 campaign to fight pediatric cancer, sustained by more than
 10 16,500 volunteers who donate over 5 million hours of their own
 11 time, that culminates in a 46-hour dance marathon in which
 12 dancers are required to be continuously moving and not allowed
 13 to sit or sleep; and

14 WHEREAS, In 1977, THON partnered with the Four Diamonds Fund

1 at Penn State Hershey Children's Hospital and chose Four
2 Diamonds as the sole beneficiary of THON's fundraising efforts;
3 and

4 WHEREAS, Four Diamonds offsets the cost of treatment that
5 insurance does not cover, including medical and emotional
6 support to ensure that all of a child's needs are met, and
7 supports the medical team that cares for the children; and

8 WHEREAS, Four Diamonds funds pediatric cancer research
9 through start-up grants and the Four Diamonds Pediatric Cancer
10 Research Center and cares directly for 500 children with cancer,
11 100 of which are children who have been newly diagnosed; and

12 WHEREAS, Since 1977, THON has raised more than \$167 million
13 to help provide emotional and financial support to the children,
14 families, researchers and staff of the Four Diamonds Fund; and

15 WHEREAS, THON 2019 took place February 15 through 17, 2019,
16 at the Bryce Jordan Center at The Pennsylvania State University;
17 and

18 WHEREAS, THON 2019, Shape the Moment, revealed its total
19 fundraising amount of \$10,621,683.76; and

20 WHEREAS, THON has inspired similar events and organizations
21 across the United States, including at high schools and
22 institutions of higher education, and continues to encourage
23 students throughout the nation to volunteer and stay involved in
24 great charitable causes in their communities; and

25 WHEREAS, Since its introduction, THON has supported over
26 4,000 children and families with childhood cancer and to this
27 day continues to enable research and improve treatments, cures
28 and benefits to ensure the cure of children with cancer around
29 the world; therefore be it

30 RESOLVED, That the House of Representatives congratulate The

1 Pennsylvania State University IFC/Panhellenic Dance Marathon on
2 its continued success in support of the Four Diamonds Fund at
3 Penn State Hershey Children's Hospital and commend The
4 Pennsylvania State University students, volunteers and
5 supporting organizations for their hard work in putting together
6 THON.