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THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF PENNSYLVANIA

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HOUSE RESOLUTION

No. 244 Session of  
2023

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INTRODUCED BY RAPP, OWLETT, KAUFFMAN, HEFFLEY, McNEILL, NEILSON  
AND BRENNAN, OCTOBER 17, 2023

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REFERRED TO COMMITTEE ON HEALTH, OCTOBER 17, 2023

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A RESOLUTION

1 Recognizing October 24, 2023, as "World Polio Day" in  
2 Pennsylvania.

3 WHEREAS, Rotary is a global network of neighbors, friends,  
4 leaders and problem-solvers who unite and take action to create  
5 lasting change in communities across the world; and

6 WHEREAS, The Rotary motto, "Service Above Self," inspires  
7 members to provide humanitarian service, follow high ethical  
8 standards and promote goodwill and peace in the world; and

9 WHEREAS, In 1985, Rotary launched PolioPlus and in 1988  
10 helped establish the Global Polio Eradication Initiative, which  
11 today includes the World Health Organization, the Centers for  
12 Disease Control and Prevention, UNICEF, the Bill & Melinda Gates  
13 Foundation and Gavi, the Vaccine Alliance, to immunize the  
14 children of the world against polio; and

15 WHEREAS, Polio cases have dropped by 99.9% since 1988 and the  
16 world stands on the threshold of eradicating the disease; and

17 WHEREAS, To date Rotary has contributed more than \$2.6  
18 billion and countless volunteer hours to protecting more than 3

1 billion children in 122 countries; and

2 WHEREAS, Rotary is working to raise an additional \$50 million  
3 per year over the next three years that would be leveraged for  
4 maximum impact with every dollar to be matched with two  
5 additional dollars from the Gates Foundation, which would  
6 translate to \$450 million total; and

7 WHEREAS, These efforts are providing much-needed operational  
8 support, medical staff, laboratory equipment and educational  
9 materials for health workers and parents; and

10 WHEREAS, In addition, Rotary has played a major role in  
11 decisions by donor governments to contribute more than \$10  
12 billion to the effort; and

13 WHEREAS, There are more than 1.2 million Rotary members in  
14 more than 35,000 clubs throughout the world that sponsor service  
15 projects to address such critical issues as poverty, disease,  
16 hunger, illiteracy and the environment in their local  
17 communities and abroad; therefore be it

18 RESOLVED, That the House of Representatives recognize October  
19 24, 2023, as "World Polio Day" in Pennsylvania; and be it  
20 further

21 RESOLVED, That the House of Representatives encourage all  
22 citizens to join Rotary International in the fight for a polio-  
23 free world.