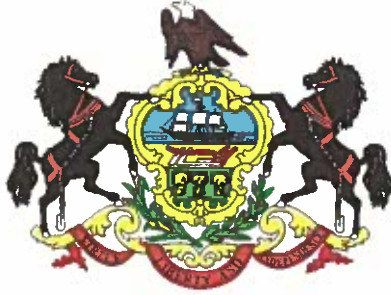


House of Representatives



COMMONWEALTH OF PENNSYLVANIA OFFICE OF THE SPEAKER

In the House, October 17, 2011

Whereas, More than 28 million children in the United States have parents who work outside the home, and more than 15 million children are left unsupervised after the school day ends; and

Whereas, Almost 1.3 million children 6 through 17 years of age in this Commonwealth have both parents in the work force or, in single-parent families, the sole parent in the work force; and

Whereas, Twenty-six percent of the nation's school-age children are responsible for taking care of themselves after school; and

Whereas, Out-of-school hours represent the "single biggest block of time" for children and youth and a key time during the development of children into adolescents and adolescents into adults; and

Whereas, After school programs provide safe, challenging, engaging and fun learning experiences to help children and youth develop academic, cultural, emotional, physical and social skills; and

Whereas, After school programs support working families by ensuring that their children are safe and productive during out-of-school hours; and

Whereas, A recent national survey found that 52% of parents cite cost as a barrier to enrolling their children in after school programs; and

Whereas, Research illustrates that high-quality programming improves student achievement, reduces crime by and against children and youth and promotes positive social development; and

Whereas, After school programs build stronger communities by involving parents, business leaders and student and adult volunteers in the lives of young people, thereby promoting positive relationships among children, youth, families and adults; and

Whereas, "Lights on Afterschool! Day" is a national celebration of after school programs on October 20, 2011, that promotes the critical importance of quality after school programs in the lives of children, their families and their communities; therefore be it

Resolved, That the House of Representatives designate October 20, 2011, as "Lights on Afterschool! Day" in Pennsylvania.

I certify that the foregoing is a true and correct copy of House Resolution No. 442, introduced by Wheatley, Bishop, Brennan, Briggs, V. Brown, Callagironne, Clymer, Cohen, D. Costa, Daley, DiGirolamo, Everett, Fabrizio, Freeman, Godshall, Goodman, Hennessey, Hornaman, Johnson, Josephs, Kirkland, Kortz, Kotik, Longietti, Mahoney, Mann, McGeehan, Millard, Milne, Mirabito, Moul, Murt, M. O'Brien, O'Neill, Parker, Pashinski, Ravenstahl, Readshaw, Rock, Roebuck, Sainato, Santoni, Sturla, Swanger, Thomas, Vereb, Vulakovich, Wagner, Youngblood, DeLuca and Brownlee.



Samuel H. Smith

Samuel H. Smith, Speaker