

THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF PENNSYLVANIA

HOUSE RESOLUTION

No. 986

Session of 2010

INTRODUCED BY WHEATLEY, BELFANTI, BEYER, BRENNAN, BRIGGS, BROWN, CALTAGI... DeLUCA, DIGIROLAMO, DONATUCCI, ELLIS, EVERETT, GINGRICH, GOODMAN, GRUC... HENNESSEY, HESS, KIRKLAND, KORTZ, KOTIK, KULA, MAHONEY, MANN, MCGEEHAN... McILVAINE SMITH, MICOZZIE, MIRABITO, OLIVER, PARKER, PASHINSKI, PAYNE, READSHAW, ROCK, ROEBUCK, ROSS, SAINATO, SCAVELLO, SEIP, SIPTROTH, K. S... STABACK, STURLA, SWANGER, THOMAS, VEREB AND YOUNGBLOOD, OCTOBER 6, 2010

INTRODUCED AS NONCONTROVERSIAL RESOLUTION UNDER RULE 35, OCTOBER 6, 2010

A RESOLUTION

1 Designating October 21, 2010, as "Lights on Afterschool! Day" in  
2 Pennsylvania.

3 WHEREAS, More than 28 million children in the United States  
4 have parents who work outside the home, and more than 14 million  
5 children have no place to go after school; and

6 WHEREAS, More than 1.3 million children 6 through 17 years of  
7 age in this Commonwealth have both parents in the work force or,  
8 in single-parent families, have the sole parent in the work  
9 force; and

10 WHEREAS, More than 500,000 children in Pennsylvania in grades  
11 kindergarten through 12 are responsible for taking care of  
12 themselves after school; and

13 WHEREAS, Only 8.4 million children in grades kindergarten  
14 through 12 participate in afterschool programs nationally; and

1 WHEREAS, An additional 18.5 million children would

2 participate in afterschool programs if one were available in  
3 their communities; and

4 WHEREAS, Twenty-six percent of school-age children in the  
5 United States are responsible for taking care of themselves  
6 after school; and

7 WHEREAS, Out-of-school hours represent the single biggest  
8 block of time for children and youth and a key time during the  
9 development of children into adolescents and adolescents into  
10 adults; and

11 WHEREAS, Afterschool programs provide safe, challenging,  
12 engaging and fun learning experiences to help children and youth  
13 develop academic, cultural, emotional, physical and social  
14 skills; and

15 WHEREAS, Afterschool programs support working families by  
16 ensuring that their children are safe and productive during out-  
17 of-school hours; and

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

21 WHEREAS, Afterschool programs build stronger communities by  
22 involving parents, business leaders and student and adult  
23 volunteers in the lives of young people, thereby promoting  
24 positive relationships among children, youth, families and  
25 adults; and

26 WHEREAS, "Lights on Afterschool! Day" is a national  
27 celebration of afterschool programs that promotes the critical  
28 importance of quality afterschool programs in the lives of  
29 children, their families and their communities; and

30 WHEREAS, On October 21, 2010, more than 7,500 national events

---

1 will be held in cities across the country in support of "Lights  
2 on Afterschool! Day"; therefore be it

3       RESOLVED, That the House of Representatives designate October  
4 21, 2010, as "Lights on Afterschool! Day" in Pennsylvania.