

THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF PENNSYLVANIA

SENATE RESOLUTION

No. 418

Session of 2010

INTRODUCED BY PICCOLA, BAKER, EARLL, DINNIMAN, ALLOWAY, ERICKSON, PIPPY, PILEGGI, WASHINGTON, ORIE, TARTAGLIONE, KASUNIC, BOSCOLA, FERLO, STACI O'PAKE, FONTANA, ARGALL, GREENLEAF AND RAFFERTY, OCTOBER 12, 2010

INTRODUCED AND ADOPTED, OCTOBER 12, 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 15 million  
5 children are left unsupervised after the school dismissal bell  
6 rings; and

7 WHEREAS, Almost 1.3 million children 6 to 17 years of age in  
8 Pennsylvania have both parents in the work force and in single  
9 parent families, the sole parent in the work force; and

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

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

17 WHEREAS, After-school programs provide safe, challenging,

---

1 engaging and fun learning experiences to help children and youth  
2 develop academic, cultural, emotional, physical and social  
3 skills; and

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

7 WHEREAS, A recent national survey reported that 52% of  
8 parents cite cost as a barrier to enrolling their children in  
9 after-school programs; and

10 WHEREAS, Research illustrates that high-quality programming  
11 improves student achievement, reduces crime by and against  
12 children and youth, and promotes positive social development;  
13 and

14 WHEREAS, After-school programs build stronger communities by  
15 involving parents, business leaders, students and adult  
16 volunteers in the lives of our young people, thereby promoting  
17 positive relationships among children, youth, families and  
18 adults; and

19 WHEREAS, "Lights on Afterschool!" is a national celebration  
20 of after-school programs on October 21, 2010, that promotes the  
21 critical importance of quality after-school programs in the  
22 lives of children, their families and their communities;  
23 therefore be it

24 RESOLVED, That the Senate designate October 21, 2010, as  
25 "Lights on Afterschool! Day" in Pennsylvania.