
THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF PENNSYLVANIA

HOUSE RESOLUTION

No. 31 Session of
2013

INTRODUCED BY HARHART, O'NEILL, D. COSTA, VEREB, MARSHALL,
MILLARD, GINGRICH, CALTAGIRONE, RAVENSTAHL, HAHN, MAHONEY,
KNOWLES, MUSTIO, MACKENZIE, OBERLANDER, DIGIROLAMO,
HICKERNELL, GABLER, PICKETT, MAJOR, ROEBUCK, MARSICO,
HEFFLEY, ROSS, LONGIETTI, QUINN, BOBACK, M. K. KELLER,
YOUNGBLOOD, V. BROWN, EMRICK, COHEN, ROCK, EVERETT AND KORTZ,
JANUARY 22, 2013

INTRODUCED AS NONCONTROVERSIAL RESOLUTION UNDER RULE 35,
JANUARY 22, 2013

A RESOLUTION

1 Recognizing and designating January 2013 as "National Mentoring
2 Month" in Pennsylvania.

3 WHEREAS, Evidence-based mentoring is a longstanding concept
4 in which a dependable adult provides guidance, support and
5 encouragement to facilitate a young person's social, emotional
6 and cognitive development; and

7 WHEREAS, High-quality, evidence-based mentoring promotes
8 positive outcomes for young people, including an increased sense
9 of industry and competency, a boost in academic performance and
10 self-esteem and improved social and communications skills; and

11 WHEREAS, Research shows that participation in a high-quality,
12 evidence-based, mentoring relationship successfully reduces the
13 incidence of violence, delinquency, substance abuse and academic
14 failure in young people; and

15 WHEREAS, Research also shows that participation in a high-

1 quality, evidence-based, mentoring relationship dramatically
2 reduces dependence on social services and results in a cost
3 benefit to the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania; and

4 WHEREAS, Evidence-based mentoring, in addition to being
5 beneficial for those being mentored, is also extremely rewarding
6 for those serving as mentors; and

7 WHEREAS, Quality programs that encourage young people to
8 learn about evidence-based mentoring and to become mentors, such
9 as programs that recruit high school students to mentor younger
10 children, are important and have the potential to create high-
11 quality mentors at an early age; and

12 WHEREAS, Evidence-based, mentoring relationships have grown
13 dramatically in the past 15 years, now reaching 12,000 young
14 Pennsylvanians, because of the remarkable creativity, vigor and
15 resourcefulness of evidence-based, mentoring programs and
16 volunteer mentors in communities throughout this Commonwealth;
17 and

18 WHEREAS, In spite of the progress made to increase evidence-
19 based mentoring, this Commonwealth has a serious mentoring gap,
20 with thousands of young people currently in need of mentors; and

21 WHEREAS, A recent study confirmed that one of the most
22 critical challenges that evidence-based, mentoring programs face
23 is recruiting enough mentors to help close the mentoring gap;
24 and

25 WHEREAS, The month-long celebration of evidence-based
26 mentoring will encourage more individuals and organizations,
27 including schools, businesses, nonprofit organizations, faith
28 institutions and foundations, to be come engaged in evidence-
29 based mentoring across this Commonwealth; and

30 WHEREAS, "National Mentoring Month" will build awareness of

1 evidence-based mentoring and recruit more individuals to become
2 mentors, thus helping to close our nation's mentoring gap;
3 therefore be it

4 RESOLVED, That the House of Representatives recognize and
5 designate January 2013 as "National Mentoring Month";
6 acknowledge the diligent efforts of individuals and groups who
7 promote evidence-based mentoring and who are observing "National
8 Mentoring Month" with appropriate ceremonies and activities to
9 further promote awareness of and volunteer involvement with
10 youth mentoring; and recognize with gratitude the contributions
11 of the millions of caring adults and students who are already
12 volunteering as mentors and encourage more adults and students
13 to volunteer as mentors.