
THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF PENNSYLVANIA

SENATE RESOLUTION

No. 487 Session of
2014

INTRODUCED BY YUDICHAK, ARGALL, KITCHEN, TEPLITZ, WASHINGTON,
WOZNIAK, SCHWANK, GREENLEAF, ERICKSON, FONTANA, STACK,
KASUNIC, DINNIMAN, TARTAGLIONE, SMITH, SOLOBAY, RAFFERTY,
ALLOWAY, FERLO, PILEGGI, HUGHES, BREWSTER, VULAKOVICH, COSTA,
FARNESE AND BAKER, OCTOBER 15, 2014

INTRODUCED AND ADOPTED, OCTOBER 15, 2014

A RESOLUTION

1 Designating October 23, 2014, 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 over 15 million
5 children are left unsupervised after the school bell rings; and

6 WHEREAS, Almost 1.3 million children who are 6 to 17 years
7 old in Pennsylvania have both parents in the work force or, in
8 single parent families, the sole parent in the work force; and

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

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

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

7 WHEREAS, Afterschool programs offer a fun and supportive
8 educational environment for Science, Technology, Engineering and
9 Mathematics (STEM); and

10 WHEREAS, A recent national survey reported that 52% of
11 parents cite cost as a barrier to enrolling their children in
12 afterschool programs; and

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

16 WHEREAS, Afterschool programs build stronger communities by
17 involving parents, business leaders and student and adult
18 volunteers in the lives of our young people, thereby promoting
19 positive relationships among children, youth, families and
20 adults; and

21 WHEREAS, "Lights on Afterschool" is a national celebration of
22 afterschool programs on October 23, 2014, that promotes the
23 critical importance of quality afterschool programs in the lives
24 of children, their families and their communities; therefore be
25 it

26 RESOLVED, That the Senate designate October 23, 2014, as
27 "Lights on Afterschool Day" in Pennsylvania.