
THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF PENNSYLVANIA

HOUSE RESOLUTION

No. 728 Session of
2015

INTRODUCED BY SCHREIBER, HENNESSEY, ROZZI, PASHINSKI, MURT,
LONGIETTI, THOMAS, SCHLOSSBERG, ENGLISH, DONATUCCI, KIRKLAND,
BURNS, COHEN, VEREB, BAKER, KILLION, MUSTIO, READSHAW,
CALTAGIRONE, DIGIROLAMO, SONNEY, DUSH, FREEMAN, TOOHIL,
MARSICO, BIZZARRO, D. COSTA, MILLARD, KINSEY, WHEELAND,
NEILSON, BULLOCK, MILNE, WATSON, DAVIS, ROSS AND YOUNGBLOOD,
MARCH 14, 2016

INTRODUCED AS NONCONTROVERSIAL RESOLUTION UNDER RULE 35,
MARCH 14, 2016

A RESOLUTION

1 Designating March 16, 2016, as "Kick Butts Day" in Pennsylvania.

2 WHEREAS, Tobacco use is the leading cause of preventable
3 death in the United States, imposing a terrible toll on
4 families, businesses and government in terms of health, lives
5 and dollars; and

6 WHEREAS, Tobacco kills more than 400,000 people annually,
7 more than AIDS, alcohol, car accidents, illegal drugs, murders
8 and suicides combined; and

9 WHEREAS, Tobacco costs the United States more than \$96
10 billion in health care expenditures and \$97 billion in lost
11 productivity each year; and

12 WHEREAS, While the United States has made major progress
13 against tobacco use, nearly one in five Americans still smokes;
14 and

1 WHEREAS, Each day approximately 3,000 youth under 18 years of
2 age try smoking for the first time and more than 700 youth
3 become new regular, daily smokers; and

4 WHEREAS, One in three of these youth will die prematurely
5 because of tobacco use; and

6 WHEREAS, Eight hundred million packs of cigarettes are
7 consumed by children each year; and

8 WHEREAS, Approximately 480,000 people die each year from
9 cigarette smoking or exposure to secondhand smoke; and

10 WHEREAS, Sixteen million people in the United States
11 currently suffer from smoking-caused illnesses; and

12 WHEREAS, The total annual public and private health care
13 expenditures caused by smoking is approximately \$132.5 billion;
14 and

15 WHEREAS, The tobacco industry spends \$8.8 billion or \$24
16 million each day on marketing its products nationwide, with much
17 of the marketing aimed at children; and

18 WHEREAS, It is imperative that visible, unified tobacco
19 cessation and prevention education efforts by community members
20 be launched to encourage all tobacco users to become tobacco-
21 free; and

22 WHEREAS, Businesses, government, law enforcement, schools,
23 faith-based institutions, service organizations, youth,
24 physicians, senior citizens, military, sports teams and
25 individuals from all other walks of life will demonstrate their
26 commitment to tobacco-free, healthy lifestyles by participating
27 in "Kick Butts Day"; therefore be it

28 RESOLVED, That the House of Representatives designate March
29 16, 2016, as "Kick Butts Day" in Pennsylvania and encourage
30 residents of all ages to participate in tobacco cessation and

- 1 prevention education activities to make a visible show of
- 2 support for our strong commitment to a tobacco-free community,
- 3 encouraging all youth and adults to pledge to be tobacco-free.