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THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF PENNSYLVANIA

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HOUSE RESOLUTION

No. 762 Session of  
2014

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INTRODUCED BY YOUNGBLOOD, CRUZ, COHEN, CALTAGIRONE, HENNESSEY,  
BIZZARRO, BISHOP, KIRKLAND, THOMAS, MCNEILL, CLAY, MILLARD,  
GIBBONS, FRANKEL, GINGRICH, EVERETT, DAVIS, BROWNLEE,  
O'BRIEN, MIRANDA, MURT, KINSEY, KORTZ, V. BROWN, KIM,  
NEILSON, SABATINA, P. COSTA, P. DALEY, HANNA, PASHINSKI,  
MUNDY, DAVIDSON, J. HARRIS AND W. KELLER, APRIL 7, 2014

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INTRODUCED AS NONCONTROVERSIAL RESOLUTION UNDER RULE 35,  
APRIL 7, 2014

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A RESOLUTION

1 Designating the week of May 5 through 11, 2014, as "Diaper Need  
2 Awareness Week" in Pennsylvania.

3 WHEREAS, Diaper Need Awareness Week will bring attention to  
4 the insufficient supply of disposable diapers for children of  
5 this Commonwealth to remain clean, dry and healthy: and

6 WHEREAS, The National Diaper Bank Network reports that nearly  
7 6 million babies in the United States three years of age or  
8 younger are living in low-income families nationwide; and

9 WHEREAS, According to the 2010 United States Census, 17% of  
10 families living in poverty in this Commonwealth have children  
11 who are five years of age or younger; and

12 WHEREAS, Access to a reliable supply of clean diapers is a  
13 necessity for the health and well-being of infants and toddlers,  
14 their families, and child and health care providers; and

15 WHEREAS, Estimates show that disposable diapers cost as much

1 as \$150 per child per month; and

2 WHEREAS, One in every three mothers finds it difficult to  
3 provide diapers for her children; and

4 WHEREAS, A supply of diapers is usually a requirement for  
5 infants and toddlers to attend and participate in child-care  
6 programs; and

7 WHEREAS, When infants and toddlers cannot participate in  
8 child-care programs, it makes it difficult for parents and  
9 guardians to participate in the work force, which has a negative  
10 impact on the economy; and

11 WHEREAS, Infants and toddlers who are living in households  
12 with little or no access to diapers could spend a day or longer  
13 in one diaper, leading to significant potential health risks;  
14 and

15 WHEREAS, Most public resources, such as food stamps and the  
16 Women, Infants and Children (WIC) Program, do not help offset  
17 the costs of these needed items; and

18 WHEREAS, Those families living in poverty often do not have  
19 access to personal washing machines, and most coin-operated  
20 laundromats, for sanitary reasons, do not allow customers to  
21 wash cloth diapers; and

22 WHEREAS, Community organizations across this Commonwealth are  
23 doing their part to help with this epidemic by hosting diaper  
24 donation drives, which are critical in providing these essential  
25 materials to working families in need and raising awareness  
26 about the real implications of a widening diaper supply gap; and

27 WHEREAS, The House of Representatives encourages citizens of  
28 this Commonwealth to participate in diaper banks, diaper drives  
29 and to support community organizations that distribute diapers  
30 to families in need of these vital resources; therefore be it

1       RESOLVED, That the House of Representatives designate the  
2 week of May 5 through 11, 2014, as "Diaper Need Awareness Week"  
3 in Pennsylvania.