THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF PENNSYLVANIA

HOUSE RESOLUTION

No. 872 Session of

INTRODUCED BY McCLINTON, HILL-EVANS, HENNESSEY, READSHAW, DEAN, NEILSON, KINSEY, ROTHMAN, J. HARRIS, LONGIETTI, MURT, CORBIN, BOBACK, DiGIROLAMO, CALTAGIRONE, MILLARD, MENTZER, SOLOMON, GROVE, DRISCOLL, WARD, O'NEILL AND DALEY, APRIL 26, 2018

INTRODUCED AS NONCONTROVERSIAL RESOLUTION UNDER RULE 35, APRIL 26, 2018

A RESOLUTION

- Recognizing the month of May 2018 as "National Drug Court Month" in Pennsylvania. 2
- 3 WHEREAS, The expansion of drug courts has been a key reform
- 4 in the fight against drug abuse and criminality in many
- 5 jurisdictions; and
- 6 WHEREAS, Underlying chronic behaviors are the focus of these
- specialized courts; and
- 8 WHEREAS, Judges work with a community team to develop a case
- plan that includes regular court appearances, treatment sessions
- 10 and monitoring of an offender's compliance and aftercare; and
- 11 WHEREAS, Volunteer mentors may provide additional support for
- 12 court-involved individuals; and
- 13 WHEREAS, Graduated sanctions, incentives, evidence-based
- treatment, education and training benefits and related services 14
- are applied as needed; and 15
- WHEREAS, "National Drug Court Month" highlights the 16

- 1 collective impact of adult drug courts, juvenile drug courts,
- 2 family dependency treatment courts, tribal healing to wellness
- 3 courts, DWI/DUI courts and Veterans Treatment Courts; and
- WHEREAS, These courts have effectively reduced drug abuse,
- 5 crime and recidivism while significantly improving treatment
- 6 outcomes and saving taxpayer money; and
- 7 WHEREAS, These courts have facilitated community partnerships
- 8 to broadly enhance criminal justice, public safety and public
- 9 health; and
- 10 WHEREAS, According to the National Institute of Justice, 84%
- 11 of drug court graduates have not been rearrested or charged with
- 12 a serious crime in the first year after their graduation; and
- 13 WHEREAS, The Urban Institute cites a report from the National
- 14 Association of Drug Court Professionals that shows drug courts
- 15 provide \$2.21 in benefits, and up to \$3.36 in benefits among
- 16 expanded programs, for every \$1 invested; and
- 17 WHEREAS, The House of Representatives applauds the commitment
- 18 and coordination among drug court defendants, judges, case
- 19 management professionals and volunteers in the pursuit of
- 20 comprehensive intervention, treatment completion, family
- 21 reunification and sustained recovery; therefore be it
- 22 RESOLVED, That the House of Representatives recognize the
- 23 month of May 2018 as "National Drug Court Month" in
- 24 Pennsylvania.