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THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF PENNSYLVANIA

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HOUSE RESOLUTION

No. 972 Session of  
2014

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INTRODUCED BY BIZZARRO, FABRIZIO, HARKINS, BOBACK, CALTAGIRONE,  
SCHLOSSBERG, THOMAS, McNEILL, FREEMAN, MIRABITO, MICOZZIE,  
CAUSER, DONATUCCI, LUCAS, KIRKLAND, READSHAW, BROWNLEE,  
PASHINSKI, MURT, LONGIETTI, BISHOP, YOUNGBLOOD, WATSON,  
DIGIROLAMO, DAVIS, CUTLER, O'NEILL, J. HARRIS, O'BRIEN,  
SONNEY, V. BROWN, COHEN, McCARTER, DEASY, FRANKEL, SABATINA,  
BENNINGHOFF, ROSS, FARINA, MILLARD, KINSEY, HARHART, DeLUCA,  
ROCK, MARSICO AND WHITE, SEPTEMBER 4, 2014

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INTRODUCED AS NONCONTROVERSIAL RESOLUTION UNDER RULE 35,  
SEPTEMBER 4, 2014

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A RESOLUTION

1 Designating the month of November 2014 as "Childhood Brain Stem  
2 Glioma Awareness Month" in Pennsylvania to inform the public  
3 about childhood brain stem glioma; and designating November  
4 11, 2014, as "Jax Stone Day" in Pennsylvania to honor one  
5 individual who passed away from the disease at a young age,  
6 but was courageous and resilient in his fight.

7 WHEREAS, Brain stem glioma is a tumor that occurs on the  
8 brain stem, which is the area of the brain that controls the  
9 body's breathing, heart rate and muscles used in seeing,  
10 hearing, walking, talking and eating; and

11 WHEREAS, Brain stem glioma accounts for approximately 15% of  
12 all childhood brain tumors and occurs mostly in children between  
13 five and ten years of age; and

14 WHEREAS, There is no known cause of most childhood brain  
15 tumors, which may be benign or malignant; and

16 WHEREAS, Symptoms associated with brain stem glioma include

1 loss of balance, difficulty walking, headaches, weakness and  
2 fatigue, vision problems, nausea, vomiting and unusual  
3 sleepiness or changes in energy level; and

4 WHEREAS, The rarity of brain stem glioma and the difficulty  
5 of surgery and treatment may lead to a rapid course of  
6 progression; and

7 WHEREAS, The prognosis for children suffering from brain stem  
8 glioma is very poor due to recurring problems even after  
9 treatment, with most not surviving more than a year following  
10 diagnosis; and

11 WHEREAS, More research is needed to discover the cause of  
12 brain stem glioma and develop more effective treatments for  
13 children diagnosed with the disease, like Jax Stone; and

14 WHEREAS, Born in Erie on November 11, 2004, Jax was the son  
15 of Sean Stone and Tara Braendel Durian; and

16 WHEREAS, Jax was recently awarded the local "Good Kid of the  
17 Year" award for his courage throughout his challenging diagnosis  
18 and the compassion he showed toward others in his community; and

19 WHEREAS, The business community in Erie rallied around Jax  
20 and his family during his fight with brain stem glioma and  
21 dedicated July 26, 2014, through August 3, 2014, as Jax Stone  
22 Week for a fundraising campaign for medical and travel expenses;  
23 and

24 WHEREAS, Jax Stone passed away on July 27, 2014, at his  
25 residence in Erie following a difficult battle with malignant  
26 brain stem glioma; and

27 WHEREAS, Following his tragic passing, the business community  
28 continued to hold Jax Stone Week to help the family with funeral  
29 costs; and

30 WHEREAS, Jax will be remembered for his kindness, bravery and

1 selflessness during his fight with brain stem glioma; therefore  
2 be it

3 RESOLVED, That the House of Representatives designate the  
4 month of November 2014 as "Childhood Brain Stem Glioma Awareness  
5 Month" in Pennsylvania to inform the public about childhood  
6 brain stem glioma; and be it further

7 RESOLVED, That the House of Representatives designate  
8 November 11, 2014, as "Jax Stone Day" in Pennsylvania to honor  
9 one individual who passed away from the disease at a young age,  
10 but was courageous and resilient in his fight.