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THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF PENNSYLVANIA

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SENATE RESOLUTION

No. 213 Session of  
2015

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INTRODUCED BY MENSCH, TEPLITZ, SCAVELLO, DINNIMAN, ARGALL,  
SCHWANK, TARTAGLIONE, SABATINA, FONTANA, HUGHES, FOLMER,  
GREENLEAF, FARNESE, RAFFERTY, VOGEL, YUDICHAK, BREWSTER,  
HAYWOOD, BARTOLOTTA, COSTA, BOSCOLA AND VULAKOVICH,  
OCTOBER 14, 2015

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INTRODUCED AND ADOPTED, OCTOBER 14, 2015

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A RESOLUTION

1 Designating the week of October 18 through 24, 2015, as  
2 "Community College Completion Week" in Pennsylvania.

3 WHEREAS, It is the mission of this Commonwealth's 14  
4 community colleges to increase the educational attainment level  
5 and work force readiness skills of Pennsylvanians to create a  
6 productive work force and vibrant economy; and

7 WHEREAS, Community colleges offer the most affordable pathway  
8 to bachelor's degrees through more than 2,700 transfer and  
9 articulation agreements to ensure students seamlessly transition  
10 from community college to an institution offering a four-year  
11 degree, with nearly 33,000 students transferring each year; and

12 WHEREAS, More than 70% of community college students  
13 nationwide who transfer to a senior college with an associate  
14 degree successfully complete a bachelor's degree; and

15 WHEREAS, Students who complete their degrees will earn an  
16 average of \$500,000 more over the course of their careers than

1 their peers who did not complete their degrees; and

2 WHEREAS, Individuals with bachelor's degrees are less likely  
3 to become unemployed than their coworkers who did not earn those  
4 credentials; and

5 WHEREAS, In less than 5 years, 65% of all jobs in the economy  
6 will require postsecondary education and training beyond high  
7 school, and 30% of those jobs will require some college or an  
8 associate's degree; and

9 WHEREAS, Phi Theta Kappa Honor Society chapters at this  
10 Commonwealth's community colleges are encouraging students to  
11 complete their associate degrees or certificates before leaving  
12 community college for transfer or to enter the job market;  
13 therefore be it

14 RESOLVED, That the Senate designate the week of October 18  
15 through 24, 2015, as "Community College Completion Week" in  
16 Pennsylvania and encourage all community college students to  
17 complete their degrees and urge community college faculty and  
18 staff to facilitate completion of student credentials.