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THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF PENNSYLVANIA

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SENATE RESOLUTION

No. 383 Session of  
2020

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INTRODUCED BY FONTANA, SEPTEMBER 25, 2020

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REFERRED TO RULES AND EXECUTIVE NOMINATIONS, SEPTEMBER 25, 2020

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A RESOLUTION

1 Designating the week of September 20 through 26, 2020, as  
2 "National Adult and Family Literacy Week" in Pennsylvania and  
3 encouraging all citizens of this Commonwealth to participate  
4 in activities that support and strengthen family bonds.

5 WHEREAS, Language, numeracy, health, finance and digital  
6 literacy are increasingly essential for individual and  
7 collective economic well-being; and

8 WHEREAS, Literacy in these domains is the foundation for  
9 additional skill building required to build a thriving  
10 workforce; and

11 WHEREAS, A vibrant Pennsylvania economy that is well-  
12 positioned in the global economy depends on having a literate,  
13 skilled population; and

14 WHEREAS, The economic well-being of future generations of  
15 Pennsylvanians depend on the ability of parents and caregivers  
16 to impart basic literacy skills; and

17 WHEREAS, The high school credential is essential to attain  
18 additional credentials that lead to family-sustaining careers;  
19 and

1       WHEREAS, The potential of 21% of adults in this Commonwealth  
2 who need basic skills education can be unlocked with adult and  
3 family literacy education; and

4       WHEREAS, Without basic skills, these adults remain trapped  
5 in low-wage jobs and struggle to support their families; and

6       WHEREAS, The COVID-19 recession has hit low-wage workers the  
7 hardest, resulting in the loss of thousands of jobs across this  
8 Commonwealth with the highest job losses among women, African  
9 Americans and individuals with a high school diploma or less;  
10 and

11       WHEREAS, An equitable economic recovery requires investing in  
12 building the skills of this Commonwealth's adults who are  
13 striving to build their families and futures in communities in  
14 this Commonwealth; and

15       WHEREAS, Each year, "National Adult Education and Family  
16 Literacy Week" highlights the need for our nation to support  
17 efforts to ensure that each individual has the necessary  
18 literacy skills to succeed at home, at work and in society; and

19       WHEREAS, The Senate supports the educators and the students  
20 enrolled in literacy programs throughout this Commonwealth;  
21 therefore be it

22       RESOLVED, That the Senate designate the week of September 20  
23 through 26, 2020, as "National Adult and Family Literacy Week"  
24 in Pennsylvania; and be it further

25       RESOLVED, That the Senate encourage all citizens of this  
26 Commonwealth to participate in activities that support and  
27 strengthen family bonds.