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THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF PENNSYLVANIA

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HOUSE RESOLUTION

No. 1110 Session of  
2018

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INTRODUCED BY KINSEY, BULLOCK, NEILSON, J. McNEILL, DONATUCCI,  
THOMAS, CALTAGIRONE, CHARLTON, ROTHMAN, WARREN, SOLOMON,  
MILLARD, HENNESSEY, RYAN, B. O'NEILL, DIGIROLAMO, BURNS,  
DAVIS, BIZZARRO, HILL-EVANS, ROZZI, YOUNGBLOOD, MACKENZIE,  
EVERETT, DRISCOLL AND KIRKLAND, OCTOBER 1, 2018

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INTRODUCED AS NONCONTROVERSIAL RESOLUTION UNDER RULE 35,  
OCTOBER 1, 2018

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A RESOLUTION

1 Recognizing the month of October 2018 as "Special Needs Law  
2 Month" in Pennsylvania.

3 WHEREAS, It is important for parents and siblings of  
4 individuals with special needs to plan for the care and  
5 financial support of their child or sibling after their death;  
6 and

7 WHEREAS, Public benefits such as Medicaid and Supplemental  
8 Security Income do not cover all of the necessary expenses for  
9 people with special needs; and

10 WHEREAS, Special needs planning can include establishing  
11 special needs trusts, evaluating care options, advocating for  
12 programs that benefit people with special needs and managing  
13 public benefits such as Medicaid and Supplemental Security  
14 Income; and

15 WHEREAS, Special needs law attorneys throughout the United  
16 States perform a much-needed service for their communities by

1 informing people with special needs, their families and  
2 caregivers about their legal options and protections; and

3 WHEREAS, The Special Needs Alliance (SNA) is a national  
4 organization of attorneys who have devoted themselves to aiding  
5 people with special needs and their loved ones in navigating  
6 disability and public benefits law; and

7 WHEREAS, Individuals with disabilities and their families  
8 depend on the SNA to find nearby attorneys who are experts in  
9 disability law; and

10 WHEREAS, Protected Tomorrows was founded by Mary Anne Ehlert  
11 to help those with special needs attain greater independence and  
12 security; and

13 WHEREAS, Protected Tomorrows guides families through the  
14 process of planning for the future of a family member with  
15 special needs in order to alleviate anxieties and secure a  
16 brighter future for individuals with special needs; and

17 WHEREAS, The National Academy of Elder Law Attorneys, Inc.  
18 (NAELA) was founded in 1987 as a professional association of  
19 attorneys who are devoted to utilizing their knowledge to aid  
20 elderly people and people with special needs in navigating  
21 important legal issues; and

22 WHEREAS, NAELA established October as "National Special Needs  
23 Law Month" in order to promote the many resources available to  
24 people with special needs and their families as they plan for  
25 their financial future; and

26 WHEREAS, Many NAELA members are celebrating "National Special  
27 Needs Law Month" by holding events in their communities to  
28 inform the public about the options available for people with  
29 special needs and their loved ones to safeguard their financial  
30 future; and

1       WHEREAS, By recognizing "Special Needs Law Month," this  
2 Commonwealth can raise awareness of the resources available for  
3 people with special needs and their loved ones to plan for their  
4 financial future; therefore be it

5       RESOLVED, That the House of Representatives recognize the  
6 month of October 2018 as "Special Needs Law Month" in  
7 Pennsylvania; and be it further

8       RESOLVED, That this Commonwealth express its full support for  
9 all individuals with special needs as well as their loved ones.