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THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF PENNSYLVANIA

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HOUSE RESOLUTION

No. 546 Session of  
2015

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INTRODUCED BY MARSHALL, ROEBUCK, BISHOP, BIZZARRO, V. BROWN,  
BULLOCK, CALTAGIRONE, COHEN, CORBIN, DIGIROLAMO, DRISCOLL,  
DUSH, HENNESSEY, KIM, MILLARD, O'BRIEN, C. PARKER, D. PARKER,  
READSHAW, ROZZI, SONNEY, THOMAS, VEREB, WATSON, WHEELAND,  
LONGIETTI, HARHART, ROSS, CHRISTIANA, GIBBONS AND GROVE,  
OCTOBER 19, 2015

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INTRODUCED AS NONCONTROVERSIAL RESOLUTION UNDER RULE 35,  
OCTOBER 19, 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

1 average of \$500,000 more over the course of their careers than  
2 their peers who did not complete their degrees; and

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

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

10 WHEREAS, Phi Theta Kappa Honor Society chapters at this  
11 Commonwealth's community colleges are encouraging students to  
12 complete their associate degrees or certificates before leaving  
13 community college to transfer to a 4-year school or to enter the  
14 job market; therefore be it

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