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THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF PENNSYLVANIA

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HOUSE RESOLUTION

No. 79 Session of  
2015

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INTRODUCED BY CRUZ, YOUNGBLOOD, V. BROWN, C. PARKER, COHEN,  
THOMAS, D. COSTA, HARHART, MURT, JAMES AND McCARTER,  
FEBRUARY 9, 2015

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REFERRED TO COMMITTEE ON ENVIRONMENTAL RESOURCES AND ENERGY,  
FEBRUARY 9, 2015

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A RESOLUTION

1 Urging the City of Philadelphia to establish a year-round  
2 program providing for the safe removal and adequate disposal  
3 of illegally discarded waste tires.

4 WHEREAS, The House of Representatives notes the various  
5 issues associated with the improper disposal of waste tires,  
6 including the economic, environmental and health impact that it  
7 poses to the landscape, property values and residents of  
8 Philadelphia; and

9 WHEREAS, The House of Representatives acknowledges that there  
10 exists a critical need for the City of Philadelphia to implement  
11 a year-round tire cleanup program and to invest or participate  
12 in environmentally safe tire recycling programs established  
13 within this Commonwealth; and

14 WHEREAS, Waste tires pose an even greater threat to the  
15 health and welfare of the residents of Philadelphia as they  
16 collect rain water and serve as an optimal habitat for breeding  
17 mosquitoes, which may be the carriers of the potentially fatal

1 West Nile virus; and

2 WHEREAS, Additional dangers such as waste tire pile fires are  
3 equally hazardous and often release toxic gases into the  
4 atmosphere which adversely affect the lives of human beings and  
5 the surrounding ecosystem; and

6 WHEREAS, On March 14, 1996, the smoldering waste tire pile  
7 fire that occurred near an I-95 overpass in Philadelphia is  
8 proof of the impact of waste tire pollution; and

9 WHEREAS, According to the Pennsylvania Department of  
10 Environmental Protection, in 1996 it was estimated that 36  
11 million waste tires were discarded in piles throughout  
12 Pennsylvania; and

13 WHEREAS, Notwithstanding the successful collaboration between  
14 the General Assembly, the Pennsylvania Department of  
15 Environmental Protection and local governments in past years, it  
16 is estimated that there are approximately 2.43 million waste  
17 tires that still need to be cleaned up in this Commonwealth; and

18 WHEREAS, The establishment of a year-round waste tire removal  
19 program would effectively address the public health issues and  
20 have a positive impact on our environment as a result of safe  
21 and proper waste tire disposal through the use of tire  
22 remediation facilities; and

23 WHEREAS, The House of Representatives encourages the City of  
24 Philadelphia to increase the scope of its current Tire Round Up  
25 program by evolving it into a year-round program; and

26 WHEREAS, The City of Philadelphia is further encouraged to  
27 work closely with its city officials and to seek grants  
28 allocated for the purpose of funding beautification projects and  
29 other environmentally oriented programs; therefore be it

30 RESOLVED, That the House of Representatives urge the City of

1 Philadelphia to establish a year-round waste tire removal  
2 program for the purpose of safely and adequately disposing of  
3 illegally discarded waste tires.