LEGISLATIVE REFERENCE BUREAU

RESOLUTION

INTRODUCED,	, 20
BY	District NO
BY,	District NO
BY	District NO
BY,	District NO
BY	District NO
See next page for additional co-sponso	Ors. Referred to Committee on
<u> </u>	Date
	Reported20
	As Committed-Amended
	Recommendation
	By Hon

A RESOLUTION

- Recognizing the month of March 2020 as "Theatre in Our Schools Month" in Pennsylvania.
- 2 Month in remisylvania.
- 3 WHEREAS, "Theatre in Our Schools Month" is an annual event
- 4 dedicated to raising public awareness of the positive impact
- 5 that theatre education has on students and highlights the need
- 6 for increasing access to quality programs; and
- 7 WHEREAS, Approximately 50 million people attend one of more
- 8 than 37,000 school theatre performances annually in the United
- 9 States; and
- 10 WHEREAS, Theatre education teaches invaluable skills needed
- 11 to be successful in the workforce such as soft-skills, including
- 12 the ability to listen, artistic sense, nonverbal communication,
- 13 enthusiasm and storytelling; and
- 14 WHEREAS, Drama activities help enhance children's social-
- 15 emotional development by allowing them to develop an enhanced
- 16 understanding of the responses, emotional expressions and
- 17 actions of other people as well as strengthening their own

- 1 confidence, creativity, resiliency, agency and sense of
- 2 community; and
- 3 WHEREAS, Drama instruction integrated into elementary
- 4 classrooms improves students' social and emotional development
- 5 and contributes to a positive classroom culture; and
- 6 WHEREAS, English language learners in kindergarten through
- 7 second grade who received weekly drama lessons demonstrated
- 8 increased listening and speaking skills on standardized tests;
- 9 and
- 10 WHEREAS, Students who took four years of art classes in high
- 11 school scored an average of 92 points higher on their SATs than
- 12 their peers; and
- 13 WHEREAS, Students with high levels of arts involvement are
- 14 less likely to drop out of school; and
- 15 WHEREAS, Reading play scripts out loud has been found to help
- 16 at-risk middle school students become better readers; and
- 17 WHEREAS, Disadvantaged students who receive an arts education
- 18 are three times more likely to earn a bachelor's degree than
- 19 students who lack those experiences; and
- 20 WHEREAS, Only 28% of public high schools in high-poverty
- 21 areas offer theatre instruction; therefore be it
- 22 RESOLVED, That the House of Representatives recognize the
- 23 month of March 2020 as "Theatre in Our Schools Month" in
- 24 Pennsylvania; and be it further
- 25 RESOLVED, That the House of Representatives recognize the
- 26 positive impact that theatre education has on communities and
- 27 students across this Commonwealth and help raise awareness
- 28 regarding the need for access to quality programs for all
- 29 students.