THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF PENNSYLVANIA

HOUSE RESOLUTION No. 643 Session of 2014

INTRODUCED BY ENGLISH, CALTAGIRONE, KOTIK, MIRABITO, DIGIROLAMO, NEILSON, SCHLOSSBERG, MURT, HENNESSEY, SONNEY, LUCAS, KIRKLAND, MACKENZIE, HEFFLEY, KORTZ, KILLION, KIM AND GIBBONS, FEBRUARY 4, 2014

INTRODUCED AS NONCONTROVERSIAL RESOLUTION UNDER RULE 35, FEBRUARY 4, 2014

A RESOLUTION

1 2	Recognizing February 2014 as "Hockey Is For Everyone Month" in Pennsylvania.
3	WHEREAS, Hockey Is For Everyone (HIFE) is the National Hockey
4	League's official youth development program which provides
5	support and unique programming to nonprofit youth hockey
6	organizations across North America; and
7	WHEREAS, HIFE uses hockey as a catalyst to help children
8	learn essential life skills, education and core values of
9	hockey: commitment, perseverance and teamwork; and
10	WHEREAS, Hockey is greatly enjoyed by Pennsylvanians both at
11	the professional level, with the State boasting championship
12	teams at various levels of the sport, and at the local level
13	through public participation in adult and youth hockey leagues
14	and programs; and
15	WHEREAS, The popularity of hockey in this Commonwealth is

16 growing, with USA Hockey recording a 25% increase in registered

1 participants since 2005, including a 91% increase in adult 2 participation and a 132% increase in youngsters under seven 3 years of age taking up the sport; and

4 WHEREAS, This growth in hockey activity has made Pennsylvania 5 one of the top five states in terms of participation, with youth 6 and adult programs becoming more mainstream in communities 7 across this Commonwealth; and

8 WHEREAS, Pennsylvanians with disabilities are also served by 9 HIFE programs such as the Mighty Penguins Sled Hockey, which 10 operates therapeutic and competitive ice hockey programs for the 11 benefit of cognitively and physically disabled individuals in 12 Pennsylvania and adjacent areas; and

WHEREAS, Programs like HIFE have helped introduce hockey to underserved populations and sections of this State like never before, encouraging more people, both young and old, to take up the sport and enjoy the fun and benefits it adds to their lives; therefore be it

18 RESOLVED, That the House of Representatives recognize 19 February 2014 as "Hockey Is For Everyone Month" in Pennsylvania 20 and encourage both young people and adults to enjoy the sport of 21 hockey by participating or watching a game with family members.

- 2 -