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THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF PENNSYLVANIA

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HOUSE RESOLUTION

No. 150 Session of  
2023

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INTRODUCED BY DALEY, O'NEAL, PICKETT, JAMES, BRENNAN, BOROWSKI,  
MADDEN, PIELLI, McANDREW, GIRAL, MARCELL, GUENST,  
SCHLOSSBERG, CERRATO, HILL-EVANS, KHAN, ROZZI, SANCHEZ,  
MALAGARI, OTTEN, CONKLIN, GREEN, NEILSON, HOWARD, GILLEN AND  
FLEMING, JUNE 13, 2023

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REFERRED TO COMMITTEE ON STATE GOVERNMENT, JUNE 13, 2023

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A RESOLUTION

1 Urging the Governor and the Department of State to recognize  
2 "St. Patrick's Day" and the 25th anniversary of the Good  
3 Friday Agreement.

4 WHEREAS, The 25th anniversary of the Good Friday Agreement  
5 has been reached, and while there are still some outstanding  
6 issues, the Good Friday Agreement has been a considerable  
7 success; and

8 WHEREAS, There are still people alive on the island of  
9 Ireland today because of the continuous bipartisan support for  
10 the Good Friday Agreement over the last 25 years of state  
11 legislators, successive United States Presidents, the United  
12 States Senate, the United States House of Representatives and  
13 elected officials working in partnership with the Government of  
14 the United Kingdom and the Government of Ireland; and

15 WHEREAS, We honor the Good Friday Agreement this year on the  
16 25th anniversary of its ratification as the framework for  
17 lasting peace in Northern Ireland; and

1       WHEREAS, The Good Friday Agreement represented a landmark  
2 breakthrough that provided Ireland with a political framework to  
3 address its future; and

4       WHEREAS, The Good Friday Agreement acknowledged the right of  
5 directing political traditions to pursue the goals of remaining  
6 part of the United Kingdom and of Irish Unity; and

7       WHEREAS, The Good Friday Agreement demonstrated democratic  
8 and peaceful means of resolving differences; and

9       WHEREAS, We recognize the British and Irish Governments'  
10 ongoing support and implementation of the Good Friday Agreement  
11 as it is the irrevocable foundation of the peace process,  
12 regardless of the United Kingdom's status regarding the European  
13 Union; and

14       WHEREAS, Despite the historic progress of the Good Friday  
15 Agreement and subsequent agreements, important issues remain  
16 unresolved in Northern Ireland, including securing justice for  
17 victims of state-sponsored and other violence and providing for  
18 the rights of all sections of the community; and

19       WHEREAS, Members of both political parties in the United  
20 States came together to support the Good Friday Agreement; and

21       WHEREAS, On March 17, during the annual celebration of the  
22 feast of Saint Patrick, patron saint of Ireland, Irish Americans  
23 join with men, women and children of all ethnic origins and for  
24 one day become Irish and celebrate Saint Patrick, and this year  
25 we also celebrate and give thanks for the 25th anniversary of  
26 the Good Friday Agreement; and

27       WHEREAS, This year also marks the 175th anniversary of the  
28 first flying of the Irish flag by Thomas F. Meagher, who  
29 embodied the links between Ireland and the United States and  
30 started his life in Ireland and died at the age of 43 while

1 serving as governor of Montana; and

2 WHEREAS, In one lifetime, Meagher ran for election to city  
3 council in Waterford, Ireland, led the rebellion for freedom  
4 from British rule in Ireland in 1848, was sentenced to death,  
5 which was commuted to transportation for life in prison in  
6 Australia, from where he escaped and became a brigadier general  
7 in the 69th Regiment of the famous 'Fighting Irish Brigade' and  
8 fought in some of the bloodiest battles of the American Civil  
9 War, including Fredericksburg and Antietam; and

10 WHEREAS, Meagher also became a friend of President Abraham  
11 Lincoln and went on to become the acting governor of Montana and  
12 died of mysterious circumstances at the age of 43; therefore be  
13 it

14 RESOLVED, That the House of Representatives of the  
15 Commonwealth of Pennsylvania urge the Governor and the  
16 Department of State to recognize "St. Patrick's Day" and the  
17 25th anniversary of the Good Friday Agreement; and be it further

18 RESOLVED, That copies of this resolution be transmitted to  
19 the Governor, the presiding officers of each house of Congress  
20 and to each member of Congress from Pennsylvania, the chair of  
21 the American Irish State Legislators Caucus, Senator Mark Daly,  
22 the 24th Chair of the Senate of Ireland and to the National  
23 cochairs of the American Irish State Legislators Caucus:

- 24 (1) Assemblywoman Carol Murphy, New Jersey.  
25 (2) Assemblyman Robin Vos, Wisconsin.  
26 (3) Senator Shannon O'Brien, Montana.  
27 (4) Representative Brian Patrick Kennedy, Rhode Island.  
28 (5) Assemblyman James Gallagher, California.  
29 (6) Representative Fran Hurley, Illinois.  
30 (7) Representative Killian Timoney, Kentucky.