

THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF PENNSYLVANIA

HOUSE RESOLUTION

No. 593 Session of
2012

INTRODUCED BY WHITE, BOBACK, BRADFORD, BROWNLEE, CALTAGIRONE,
DeLUCA, FABRIZIO, GEORGE, GOODMAN, HESS, HORNAMAN, KORTZ,
KOTIK, MIRABITO, M. O'BRIEN, PASHINSKI, QUINN, READSHAW,
STURLA AND YOUNGBLOOD, FEBRUARY 29, 2012

REFERRED TO COMMITTEE ON ENVIRONMENTAL RESOURCES AND ENERGY,
FEBRUARY 29, 2012

A RESOLUTION

1 Encouraging corporations engaged in the Marcellus Shale industry
2 in this Commonwealth to adopt a set of principles known as
3 the "Marcellus Shale Principles."

4 WHEREAS, The Marcellus Shale geologic formation in the
5 northeastern United States is one of the largest known sources
6 of natural gas in the world; and

7 WHEREAS, Approximately two-thirds of the land area of this
8 Commonwealth is situated above this natural gas-bearing
9 formation; and

10 WHEREAS, Many communities in this area have historically
11 endured high unemployment rates; and

12 WHEREAS, Due to the vast amount of potential energy available
13 in the Marcellus Shale formation, corporations have descended
14 upon this Commonwealth to buy land, purchase leases, drill for
15 natural gas and build pipelines and processing facilities; and

16 WHEREAS, Since a reliable work force already exists in many
17 of these communities, the Commonwealth is investing in programs

1 and facilities to provide workers with training; and

2 WHEREAS, The Marcellus Shale industry has the potential to
3 provide steady, well-paying jobs for these workers, thereby
4 increasing their standard of living and stimulating local
5 economies; and

6 WHEREAS, A concerted effort should be made by corporations to
7 hire workers from these communities, including veterans, and
8 provide them with family-sustaining jobs and benefits; and

9 WHEREAS, The land on which drilling is taking place is not
10 only a source of potential energy and employment but is also the
11 foundation on which these communities have been built; and

12 WHEREAS, Responsible stewardship of this land by these
13 corporations is essential to protecting the environment and
14 thereby preserving the quality of life for residents in these
15 communities; and

16 WHEREAS, As new members of the community, it is imperative
17 that these corporations build and maintain relationships with
18 all stakeholders by sharing information and being open about
19 their practices; and

20 WHEREAS, If drilling for natural gas is to occur in the
21 Marcellus Shale formation, it should positively impact the
22 communities where it is taking place through the employment of
23 local workers, good stewardship of the environment and open and
24 transparent communication among all stakeholders; and

25 WHEREAS, The West Virginia Senate recently adopted a
26 "Marcellus Principles" resolution calling on corporations in the
27 Marcellus Shale industry to adhere to a set of principles to
28 guide their operations in the state; and

29 WHEREAS, The "Marcellus Shale Principles" to which
30 corporations should commit include:

1 (1) Employing workers from the local community to fill
2 all industry jobs, including drilling, construction and
3 maintenance.

4 (2) Being responsible stewards of the land where natural
5 gas is extracted, processed and delivered.

6 (3) Maintaining open lines of communication with all
7 stakeholders in order to ensure the safety and security of
8 communities in which the industry is operating or developing
9 operations.

10 (4) Respecting and applying these principles with
11 integrity and transparency;

12 therefore be it

13 RESOLVED, That the House of Representatives encourage all
14 corporations engaged in the Marcellus Shale industry in this
15 Commonwealth to demonstrate their commitment to the "Marcellus
16 Shale Principles" by executing a signed and dated endorsement of
17 these principles; and be it further

18 RESOLVED, That copies of this resolution be transmitted to
19 the Marcellus Shale Coalition and the Pennsylvania Independent
20 Oil and Gas Association.