

THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF PENNSYLVANIA

HOUSE RESOLUTION

No. 111

Session of

INTRODUCED BY D. S. HAYES, REED, GREEN, DOMBROWSKI,
A. C. FOSTER, MANMILLER AND CRAWFORD, JUNE 10, 1975

REFERRED TO COMMITTEE ON RULES, JUNE 11, 1975

In the House of Representatives, June 10, 1975

1 WHEREAS, The Supreme Court of the Commonwealth of
2 Pennsylvania through its Criminal Rules Committee and by its
3 adoption of Rule 51 of that committee has limited the
4 traditional duties and responsibilities of constables in summary
5 cases; and

6 WHEREAS, The constables of the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania
7 hold an office validated by centuries of legal tradition and
8 more than a century and a half of statutory and elective trust
9 and responsibility; and

10 WHEREAS, The constables of the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania
11 are diligent public servants, putting themselves at unlimited
12 public disposal in order to preserve lawfulness and civil peace;
13 and

14 WHEREAS, The constables of the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania
15 risk personal peril, as do all other officers of law
16 enforcement, in the faithful execution of their duties and
17 responsibilities; and

1 WHEREAS, The constables of the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania
2 as constituted by law perform their duties at no expense to the
3 taxpayer; therefore be it

4 RESOLVED (the Senate concurring), That the General Assembly
5 of the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania solemnly and respectfully
6 urges that the Supreme Court of Pennsylvania recognize the
7 magnitude of public trust in the constable as a law enforcement
8 official and the proportionate responsibilities growing out of
9 that trust; and be it further

10 RESOLVED, That the General Assembly of the Commonwealth of
11 Pennsylvania solemnly and respectfully urges that the Supreme
12 Court of Pennsylvania recognize the personal burdens of the
13 office of constable and the attendant responsibilities merited
14 by the endurance of those burdens; and be it further

15 RESOLVED, That the General Assembly of the Commonwealth of
16 Pennsylvania solemnly and respectfully requests that the Supreme
17 Court of Pennsylvania restore and maintain all of the
18 traditional statutory duties and responsibilities of the office
19 of constable in the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania; and be it
20 further

21 RESOLVED, That the General Assembly of the Commonwealth of
22 Pennsylvania solemnly and respectfully request that the members
23 of the Supreme Court of the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania review
24 and abolish Rule 51 of its Criminal Rules Procedure.