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THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF PENNSYLVANIA

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# HOUSE RESOLUTION

## No. 144

Session of  
1983

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INTRODUCED BY D. R. WRIGHT, MANDERINO, WARGO, STEWART,  
STEIGHNER, MORRIS, STUBAN, COLE, LLOYD, BROUJOS, RUDY, COY,  
SWEET, LIVENGOOD, WOZNIAK, WACHOB, TELEK, GRIECO, MADIGAN,  
BOWSER, JOHNSON, HAYES, SIRIANNI, WASS, SWIFT, STAIRS,  
A. C. FOSTER, JR., ROBBINS, MACKOWSKI AND LEHR, OCTOBER 12,  
1983

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ADOPTED, OCTOBER 12, 1983

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### A RESOLUTION

1 Urging the Pennsylvania delegation in the United States Congress  
2 to gain membership on committees which deal with farm and  
3 rural legislative matters.

4 WHEREAS, The 1980 census reported that the rural population  
5 in Pennsylvania increased to 3,643,044, more than the combined  
6 population of all Pennsylvania's cities of 30,000 or more; and

7 WHEREAS, Forty-seven of the 67 counties in Pennsylvania have  
8 been classified as rural, constituting 70% of the total  
9 Pennsylvania landmass; and

10 WHEREAS, Pennsylvania is first in the Nation in the  
11 production of mushrooms, third in the production in calves and  
12 eggs, fourth in the production of grapes, fifth in the  
13 production of dairy products, chickens, peaches, cherries and  
14 floriculture, and sixth in the production of silage, corn and  
15 apples; and

16 WHEREAS, Agriculture is the backbone of a very substantial

1 agri-business industry: food processing, feed, fertilizer, seed,  
2 equipment and machinery production and distribution. Agriculture  
3 is also the largest user of steel and rubber. If export markets  
4 can be captured, agriculture stands in the forefront of economic  
5 remedies for Pennsylvania. Agriculture heads the list of the  
6 number and quantity of goods exported annually; and

7 WHEREAS, In spite of the fact that agriculture is the number  
8 one revenue-producing industry in the Commonwealth (\$3 billion  
9 annually, almost half from dairy products), neither of our  
10 United States Senators nor members of the Pennsylvania  
11 Congressional delegation serve on either the 18-member Senate  
12 Agriculture, Nutrition and Forestry Committee or the 41-member  
13 House Committee on Agriculture although United States Senator  
14 Specter has served with distinction on the Agricultural  
15 Appropriations Subcommittee; therefore be it

16 RESOLVED, That the House of Representatives of the  
17 Commonwealth of Pennsylvania urge United States Senators Heniz  
18 and Specter, along with the other members of the Pennsylvania  
19 Congressional delegation that represent farm/rural  
20 constituencies, to strive for positions on either of these  
21 committees at the earliest appropriate time; and be it further

22 RESOLVED, That copies of this resolution be submitted to  
23 Senators Heinz and Specter; members of the United States House  
24 of Representatives; United States Senator Jesse Helms, Chairman  
25 of the Senate Agriculture Committee; Congressmen E. de la Garza,  
26 Chairman of the House Agriculture Committee; Senate Majority  
27 Leader Howard H. Baker; House Speaker Tip O'Neill; and House  
28 Majority Leader James C. Wright, Jr.