

THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF PENNSYLVANIA

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# HOUSE RESOLUTION

No. 142 Session of  
1991

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INTRODUCED BY COY, COLE AND WAMBACH, JUNE 11, 1991

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REFERRED TO COMMITTEE ON RULES, JUNE 11, 1991

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## A RESOLUTION

1 Commending Philadelphia Electric Company for its environmental  
2 conservation efforts relating to reintroducing shad to the  
3 Susquehanna River by constructing a fish lift at the  
4 Conowingo Dam and by improving water quality in the river and  
5 Chesapeake Bay.

6 WHEREAS, The American shad population in the lower  
7 Susquehanna River and Chesapeake Bay had declined substantially  
8 in recent decades due to overfishing, water pollution and river  
9 dams; and

10 WHEREAS, The completion of a \$12 million fish lift, known as  
11 the Conowingo East Fish Lift, at the 63-year-old Conowingo Dam  
12 is Philadelphia Electric Company's signature project towards  
13 environmental protection in the Susquehanna Valley and marks a  
14 substantial investment in the cooperative effort to repopulate  
15 the river with American shad, once a prime recreational and  
16 commercial species on the East Coast; and

17 WHEREAS, The Conowingo East Fish Lift compliments an existing  
18 smaller lift on the west side of the dam which has operated  
19 since 1972; and

1       WHEREAS, The fish passageway constructed by Philadelphia  
2   Electric Company is the largest in the United States, utilizes  
3   the best technology currently available to attract and collect  
4   fish, and is designed to pass up to 750,000 American shad and 5  
5   million river herring each season; and

6       WHEREAS, In addition to the fish lift, Philadelphia Electric  
7   Company will maintain minimal water flows and aerate river water  
8   to further improve water quality and fish habitation in the  
9   river and bay; and

10      WHEREAS, Statistics gathered indicate that the American shad  
11   population passing through the fish passageway is twice the  
12   number in 1991 that it was in 1990; therefore be it

13      RESOLVED, That the House of Representatives commend  
14   Philadelphia Electric Company for its environmental conservation  
15   efforts relating to reintroducing shad to the Susquehanna River  
16   by constructing a fish lift at the Conowingo Dam and by  
17   improving water quality in the river and Chesapeake Bay.