

THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF PENNSYLVANIA

# SENATE RESOLUTION

No. 154 Session of  
1998

INTRODUCED BY HART, CONTI, EARLL, THOMPSON, SLOCUM, WOZNIAK,  
MUSTO, BRIGHTBILL, ARMSTRONG, WHITE, WENGER, TOMLINSON,  
MOWERY, BELL, ROBBINS, COSTA, AFFLERBACH AND LAVALLE,  
MARCH 19, 1998

REFERRED TO INTERGOVERNMENTAL AFFAIRS, MARCH 19, 1998

## A RESOLUTION

1 Memorializing Congress to abolish the so-called marriage tax  
2 penalty.

3 WHEREAS, Many Americans are forced to pay more Federal taxes  
4 each year simply because they are married: when a couple files  
5 their income tax return and they add the second income to the  
6 first, the lower income or both incomes are often subject to a  
7 higher tax bracket; and

8 WHEREAS, The Congressional Budget Office estimates that 23  
9 million Americans are affected by this marriage tax penalty  
10 every year, with these families paying an average of \$1,400 per  
11 family in additional taxes because of the so-called marriage tax  
12 penalty; and

13 WHEREAS, This additional income tax is especially burdensome  
14 on the working poor, as a two-income family making less than  
15 \$20,000 must devote a full 8% of its total income just to pay  
16 the average marriage tax penalty; and

17 WHEREAS, The marriage tax penalty creates a fiscal

1 disincentive for marriage which can contribute to the breakdown  
2 of the social and economic stability of the family unit;  
3 therefore be it

4       RESOLVED, That the Senate of the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania  
5 memorialize the Congress of the United States to enact  
6 legislation that abolishes the marriage tax penalty; and be it  
7 further

8       RESOLVED, That copies of this resolution be transmitted to  
9 the presiding officers of each house of Congress and to each  
10 member of Congress from Pennsylvania.