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THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF PENNSYLVANIA

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HOUSE BILL

No. 700 Session of  
2003

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INTRODUCED BY B. SMITH, CLYMER, JOSEPHS, STERN, FEESE, BUNT,  
BEBKO-JONES, BISHOP, E. Z. TAYLOR, FLEAGLE, GILLESPIE, JAMES,  
YOUNGBLOOD, McNAUGHTON, MAITLAND, STABACK, WASHINGTON,  
TANGRETTI, WALKO, CREIGHTON, HORSEY, S. MILLER, LEWIS,  
PICKETT, WATSON, PAYNE, CRAHALLA AND LAUGHLIN, MARCH 18, 2003

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REFERRED TO COMMITTEE ON STATE GOVERNMENT, MARCH 18, 2003

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AN ACT

1 Selecting, designating and adopting celestite, more commonly  
2 known as celestine, as the official State mineral of the  
3 Commonwealth of Pennsylvania.

4 The General Assembly finds and declares as follows:

5 (1) Celestite was first discovered near Frankstown,  
6 Pennsylvania, in 1791 by Abraham G. Werner, who named the  
7 mineral for its pale blue color.

8 (2) Celestite is unique in the mineral kingdom due to  
9 its famous colorful combinations of minerals.

10 (3) Celestite has been found in Bellwood, Blair County;  
11 East Salem, Juniata County; Lime Bluff, Lycoming County;  
12 Meckley's Quarry, Northumberland County; Allenport,  
13 Huntingdon County; and Faylors Middle Creek Quarry, Mifflin  
14 County.

15 (4) The designating of a State mineral will provide a  
16 positive experience to countless school children whose  
17 interest in Pennsylvania history and geology will be piqued.

1       The General Assembly of the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania  
2 hereby enacts as follows:

3   Section 1.   Official State mineral.

4       Celestite, a mineral appearing in blue-tinged or white  
5 orthorhombic crystals or in fibrous masses, is hereby selected,  
6 designated and adopted as the official State mineral of the  
7 Commonwealth of Pennsylvania.

8   Section 2.   Effective date.

9       This act shall take effect immediately.