

THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF PENNSYLVANIA

SENATE RESOLUTION

No. 366 Session of
2010

INTRODUCED BY GREENLEAF, PILEGGI, COSTA, LEACH, O'PAKE, YAW,
ALLOWAY, GORDNER, EARLL, D. WHITE, MENSCH, VANCE, BAKER,
RAFFERTY, BOSCOLA, STACK, FARNESE AND BROWNE, JUNE 23, 2010

INTRODUCED AND ADOPTED, JUNE 23, 2010

A RESOLUTION

1 Congratulating the Commonwealth Court on its 40th anniversary.

2 WHEREAS, The Constitutional Convention of 1967-68 recommended
3 the creation of a new constitutional intermediate appellate
4 court in Pennsylvania; and

5 WHEREAS, The voters of Pennsylvania on April 23, 1968
6 approved various amendments to the Constitution including a new
7 Judiciary Article which incorporated a provision creating the
8 Commonwealth Court; and

9 WHEREAS, During the 1969 Session, the General Assembly
10 enacted the "Commonwealth Court Act"; and

11 WHEREAS, On March 17, 1970, Governor Raymond Shafer nominated
12 the original seven judges of the Commonwealth Court and they
13 were confirmed by the Senate the same day; and

14 WHEREAS, The Commonwealth Court heard its first case in
15 September 1970; and

16 WHEREAS, The Commonwealth Court has issued more than 50,000
17 decisions since its creation in 1970; and

1 WHEREAS, The decisions of the Commonwealth Court have had a
2 great impact on the People of Pennsylvania and have greatly
3 contributed to the rule of law in this Commonwealth; and

4 WHEREAS, The decisions of the Commonwealth Court have in
5 significant ways defined the relationship between the People of
6 Pennsylvania and the government of Pennsylvania; and

7 WHEREAS, The decisions of the Commonwealth Court have
8 analyzed and sometimes reshaped the relationships between the
9 legislative, executive and judicial branches of State
10 Government; and

11 WHEREAS, Thirty-two distinguished Pennsylvanians from
12 different areas and diverse backgrounds have served as
13 commissioned judges on the Commonwealth Court since its
14 creation; and

15 WHEREAS, Numerous senior judges have served with distinction
16 on the Commonwealth Court; and

17 WHEREAS, The judges of the Commonwealth Court have earned the
18 Commonwealth Court the reputation as one of America's finest
19 intermediate appellate courts and have established the
20 Commonwealth Court as a leader in judicial efficiency; and

21 WHEREAS, The Commonwealth Court during the past 40 years has
22 been a national leader in defining and developing the contours
23 of Administrative Law; and

24 WHEREAS, The Commonwealth Court on June 22, 2010 observed its
25 40th anniversary with a lecture and dinner; therefore be it

26 RESOLVED, That the Senate recognize the Commonwealth Court as
27 one of America's premier intermediate appellate courts; and be
28 it further

29 RESOLVED, That the Senate offer its congratulations to the
30 judges and staff of the Commonwealth Court, both past and

1 present, as they celebrate the court's 40th anniversary; and be
2 it further

3 RESOLVED, That the Senate observe with pride the 40th
4 anniversary of the Commonwealth Court; and be it further

5 RESOLVED, That a copy of this resolution be transmitted to
6 the Honorable Bonnie Brigrance Leadbetter, President Judge,
7 Commonwealth Court of Pennsylvania, 5th Floor, Pennsylvania
8 Judicial Center, Harrisburg, Pennsylvania.