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THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF PENNSYLVANIA

SENATE RESOLUTION

No. 377 Session of 2012

INTRODUCED BY TOMLINSON, BOSCOLA, PILEGGI, SCARNATI, GORDNER, ERICKSON, GREENLEAF, PICCOLA, RAFFERTY, WARD, M. WHITE, FERLO, KASUNIC, SOLOBAY, WOZNIAK, D. WHITE, BLAKE, BAKER, TARTAGLIONE, BREWSTER, BROWNE, COSTA, EARLL, DINNIMAN, ALLOWAY, FARNESE, BRUBAKER, FONTANA, ARGALL, HUGHES, VULAKOVICH, KITCHEN, LEACH, SCHWANK, STACK, WASHINGTON, WILLIAMS AND YUDICHAK, OCTOBER 3, 2012

INTRODUCED AND ADOPTED, OCTOBER 3, 2012

A RESOLUTION

Honoring Irwin "Sonny" Popowsky for his 33 years of public service in the Office of Consumer Advocate.

WHEREAS, The Office of Consumer Advocate is charged with the representation of utility consumers in matters before the Public Utility Commission and other Federal and State commissions and courts; and

WHEREAS, The Consumer Advocate is nominated by the Attorney General and confirmed by the State Senate; and

WHEREAS, Irwin "Sonny" Popowsky joined Pennsylvania's Office of Consumer Advocate in 1979 as an assistant consumer advocate; and

WHEREAS, In 1990, Mr. Popowsky was appointed Pennsylvania's Consumer Advocate; and

WHEREAS, Mr. Popowsky has participated in the drafting of many major legislative measures such as telephone restructuring,

electric consumer choice and natural gas restructuring; and

WHEREAS, Mr. Popowsky was President of the National Association of State Utility Consumer Advocates from 1996 to 1998; and

WHEREAS, Mr. Popowsky has served on numerous national and State boards, such as the Board of Trustees of the North American Electric Reliability Council, the Board of Directors of the North American Electric Reliability Council, the Board of Directors of the North American Energy Standards Board and the Keystone Energy Board; and

WHEREAS, In 2010, Mr. Popowsky was appointed by the Secretary of Energy to the Department of Energy Electricity Advisory Committee; and

WHEREAS, Mr. Popowsky was selected to serve on the Stakeholder Steering Committee of the Department of Energy-sponsored Eastern Interconnection Planning Collaborative; and

WHEREAS, In 1988, Mr. Popowsky briefed and argued the landmark United States Supreme Court case of *Duquesne Light Company v. Barasch*, in which the court upheld the position of the Office of Consumer Advocate that two Pennsylvania utilities had no constitutional right to charge consumers for the costs of four canceled nuclear power plants; and

WHEREAS, Mr. Popowsky has a nationally recognized understanding of public utility regulation; and

WHEREAS, Mr. Popowsky has always considered his service to Pennsylvania utility consumers as an honor and a privilege; and

WHEREAS, Mr. Popowsky has advocated for the rights and protections of utility consumers, and treated opposing opinions with respect; and

WHEREAS, The Senate recognizes Mr. Popowsky's service in the

regulatory community; and

WHEREAS, Mr. Popowsky's kind and caring leadership and tireless pursuit of the common good have inspired a new generation of young attorneys to specialize in the practice of public utility law; and

WHEREAS, Mr. Popowsky's abilities will be deeply missed by colleagues and the public at large; therefore be it

RESOLVED, That the Senate honor Irwin "Sonny" Popowsky for his 33 years of public service in the Office of Consumer Advocate and wish him well in his retirement.