

THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF PENNSYLVANIA

HOUSE RESOLUTION

No. 49 Session of 2013

INTRODUCED BY WATERS, FREEMAN, SCHLOSSBERG, CALTAGIRONE, MARKOSEK, O'NEILL, NEILSON, MIRABITO, MILLARD, RAVENSTAHL, BROWNLEE, B. BOYLE, KINSEY, MCCARTER, KORTZ, O'BRIEN, ROZZI, D. COSTA, HARHAI, MCNEILL, BISHOP, LONGIETTI, DAVIS, DIGIROLAMO, CONKLIN, STURLA, GROVE, VEREB, MAHONEY, COHEN, MAJOR, R. BROWN, FLECK, ROSS, THOMAS, WHITE, CLYMER, PETRI, FRANKEL, SAINATO, HESS, GOODMAN, V. BROWN, ROEBUCK, YOUNGBLOOD, SCHLEGEL CULVER, WATSON AND BENNINGHOFF, JANUARY 30, 2013

INTRODUCED AS NONCONTROVERSIAL RESOLUTION UNDER RULE 35, JANUARY 30, 2013

A RESOLUTION

1 Recognizing the month of February 2013 as "Black History Month"  
 2 in Pennsylvania and urging all Pennsylvanians to be mindful  
 3 of the contributions of African Americans and of all of its  
 4 citizens to our country's rich history throughout the year.

5 WHEREAS, In 1926, Dr. Carter G. Woodson, who worked in  
 6 Kentucky coal mines as a child and was the son of former slaves,  
 7 proposed and launched a week-long celebration of the individuals  
 8 and occasions having a significant impact on African-American  
 9 history in America; and

10 WHEREAS, Dr. Woodson chose the month of February to conduct  
 11 this commemoration because the birthdays of Frederick Douglass  
 12 and Abraham Lincoln, two men whose actions have significantly  
 13 affected African Americans in this country, are in February; and

14 WHEREAS, Frederick Douglass was a gifted orator, writer and  
 15 statesman who was a tireless advocate of the anti-slavery

1 movement; and

2 WHEREAS, Abraham Lincoln signed the Emancipation Proclamation  
3 and is considered to be one of America's greatest presidents;  
4 and

5 WHEREAS, In 1976, the commemoration was extended from a week-  
6 long event to the entire month of February; and

7 WHEREAS, During the month of February 2013, observances are  
8 held across the country and this Commonwealth to increase public  
9 awareness of the importance of black history and the  
10 contributions that African Americans have made toward their  
11 country's rich history; and

12 WHEREAS, Not only during the month of February 2013, but  
13 throughout the remainder of the year, it is important that all  
14 citizens reach out to one another in seeking to understand their  
15 fellow man in a peaceful and loving way; and

16 WHEREAS, The citizens of this Commonwealth should recommit  
17 themselves to an ideal America where equality and justice will  
18 always prevail and to the principals of love, wisdom and  
19 compassion toward one another; and

20 WHEREAS, The respect that fellow citizens have for one  
21 another determines the value of any country; therefore be it

22 RESOLVED, That the House of Representatives recognize the  
23 month of February 2013 as "Black History Month" in Pennsylvania  
24 and urge all Pennsylvanians to be mindful of the contributions  
25 of African Americans and of all of its citizens to our country's  
26 rich history throughout the year.