
THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF PENNSYLVANIA

HOUSE RESOLUTION

No. 949 Session of
2015

INTRODUCED BY PETRARCA, READSHAW, SCHLOSSBERG, COHEN, SACCONI,
DRISCOLL, DIGIROLAMO, KIRKLAND, LONGIETTI, D. COSTA, ENGLISH,
MAHONEY, GIBBONS, MARSHALL, WHEELAND, DONATUCCI, HENNESSEY,
MILNE, MURT, PHILLIPS-HILL, SAYLOR AND BRADFORD,
JUNE 30, 2016

INTRODUCED AS NONCONTROVERSIAL RESOLUTION UNDER RULE 35,
JUNE 30, 2016

A RESOLUTION

1 Strongly urging the National Park Service to complete the
2 Eastern Legacy Special Resource Study mandated by the
3 Congress of the United States in 2008, and recommending
4 inclusion of the Eastern Legacy sites, including 67
5 Pennsylvania counties, in the Lewis and Clark National
6 Historic Trail.

7 WHEREAS, The Lewis and Clark National Historic Trail was
8 established by the Congress of the United States in 1978 and
9 extended to the West from Wood River, Illinois, to the mouth of
10 the Columbia River in Oregon and Washington; and

11 WHEREAS, Section 343 of the Consolidated Natural Resources
12 Act of 2008 directed the National Park Service to conduct a
13 special resource study to assess the suitability and feasibility
14 of extending the Lewis and Clark National Historic Trail to
15 include Eastern Legacy sites, the historic routes and sites in
16 the east that were vital to the preparation and planning of the
17 Lewis and Clark Corps of Discovery expedition; and

18 WHEREAS, Extending the Lewis and Clark National Historic

1 Trail eastward fulfills the objectives of the National Trails
2 System, established in 1968, providing for the ever-increasing
3 outdoor recreation needs of an expanding population and
4 promoting the preservation of, public access to, travel within,
5 and the enjoyment and appreciation of open-air, outdoor areas
6 and historic resources of the nation; and

7 WHEREAS, Meriwether Lewis and the Lewis and Clark expedition
8 have strong ties to this Commonwealth; and

9 WHEREAS, Meriwether Lewis was mentored in Lancaster and
10 Philadelphia by leading scholars and scientists of the day,
11 including Andrew Ellicott, Robert Patterson, Benjamin Rush,
12 Benjamin Smith Barton and Caspar Wistar; and

13 WHEREAS, The expedition keelboat was built by Captain John
14 Walker from timber cut and sawed in Elizabeth before the final
15 fitting at Fort Lafayette in Pittsburgh; and

16 WHEREAS, Meriwether Lewis purchased his dog, Seaman, in
17 Pittsburgh; and

18 WHEREAS, The Lewis and Clark Journals were started August 30,
19 1803, in Pittsburgh; and

20 WHEREAS, Meriwether Lewis traveled Braddock's Road, known as
21 the National Road after 1806, from Charleston, Virginia, now
22 West Virginia, to Pittsburgh; and

23 WHEREAS, United States Secretary of the Treasury Albert
24 Gallatin of Friendship Hill in Fayette County advised Thomas
25 Jefferson that Meriwether Lewis should consider linguistics,
26 ethnology and geography during his exploration to the West; and

27 WHEREAS, Two historical markers in Pittsburgh note the site
28 of Fort Lafayette and the keelboat launch site beginning
29 Meriwether Lewis' journey down the Ohio River; and

30 WHEREAS, The Lewis and Clark Journals are preserved today at

1 the American Philosophical Society in Philadelphia; and

2 WHEREAS, Plants and botanical material collected by Lewis and
3 Clark are preserved in the Academy of Natural Sciences in
4 Philadelphia; and

5 WHEREAS, The City Tavern, where Meriwether Lewis dined, has
6 been reconstructed within the National Park Service Independence
7 National Historical Park in Philadelphia; and

8 WHEREAS, The Woodlands, a National Historic Landmark District
9 in Philadelphia, has plants grown from seed harvested during the
10 Lewis and Clark expedition; and

11 WHEREAS, *Contributions of Philadelphia to Lewis and Clark*
12 *History, Walk in the Footprints of Lewis and Clark in*
13 *Philadelphia* and other maps and brochures have already been
14 printed and are available for distribution; and

15 WHEREAS, The Library Company of Philadelphia preserves the
16 copy of *History of Louisiana* by Antoine du Pratz that Meriwether
17 Lewis carried to the Pacific Ocean and back; and

18 WHEREAS, The Athenaeum of Philadelphia preserves one of the
19 telescopes that was carried on the expedition; and

20 WHEREAS, The First National Bank of the United States,
21 located in Philadelphia, exhibits portraits of Lewis and Clark
22 painted by Charles Willson Peale; and

23 WHEREAS, The journal of Corps of Discovery member Sergeant
24 Patrick Gass was published in Pittsburgh in 1807 and the
25 comprehensive journals of Lewis and Clark were published by
26 Nicholas Biddle in Philadelphia in 1814; and

27 WHEREAS, Tourism is a major component of Pennsylvania's
28 economy; and

29 WHEREAS, The addition of Pennsylvania's 67 counties to the
30 Lewis and Clark National Historic Trail would greatly benefit

1 the tourism industry and overall economy of this Commonwealth;
2 therefore be it

3 RESOLVED, That the House of Representatives strongly urge the
4 National Park Service to complete the Eastern Legacy Special
5 Resource Study mandated by the Congress of the United States in
6 2008, and recommend inclusion of the Eastern Legacy sites,
7 including 67 Pennsylvania counties, in the Lewis and Clark
8 National Historic Trail; and be it further

9 RESOLVED, That copies of this resolution be transmitted to
10 the following:

11 (1) Governor Tom Wolf.

12 (2) Secretary of Community and Economic Development
13 Dennis M. Davin.

14 (3) Members of the Pennsylvania's Congressional
15 Delegation.

16 (4) Jonathan B. Jarvis, Director, National Park Service,
17 1849 C Street, NW, Washington, DC 20240.

18 (5) Cameron H. Sholly, Regional Director, Midwest
19 Region, National Park Service, 601 Riverfront Drive, Omaha,
20 NE 68102.

21 (6) James L. Mallory, Vice Chairman, Lewis and Clark
22 Trust, Inc., 1867 Bellefonte Drive, Lexington, KY 40503.