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THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF PENNSYLVANIA

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# HOUSE RESOLUTION

No. 264 Session of  
2003

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INTRODUCED BY SCRIMENTI, SURRA, FABRIZIO, WALKO, PISTELLA,  
WASHINGTON, JAMES, YOUNGBLOOD, PRESTON, JOSEPHS AND GOODMAN,  
MAY 5, 2003

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REFERRED TO COMMITTEE ON INTERGOVERNMENTAL AFFAIRS, MAY 5, 2003

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A CONCURRENT RESOLUTION

1 Memorializing the Citizens' Stamp Advisory Committee of the  
2 United States Postal Service to consider and recommend to the  
3 United States Postal Service Board of Governors the issuance  
4 of a commemorative stamp honoring the United States Brig  
5 Niagara.

6 WHEREAS, The Battle of Lake Erie was a fierce naval campaign  
7 waged to prevent the United States from losing its northwest  
8 territories; and

9 WHEREAS, The battle resulted in a restoration of public  
10 morale and confirmation that America had found independence from  
11 Great Britain at the height of the War of 1812; and

12 WHEREAS, The United States Brig Niagara was the relief  
13 flagship utilized by Commodore Oliver Hazard Perry during this  
14 significant battle; and

15 WHEREAS, Upon defeating the British with the Niagara fleet,  
16 Commodore Perry relayed the famous victory message, "We have met  
17 the enemy and they are ours"; and

18 WHEREAS, After the war, the Niagara served as a station ship  
19 in Erie until 1820, when she was scuttled in Presque Isle Bay;

1 and

2 WHEREAS, To celebrate the centennial of the impressive battle  
3 in 1913, Erie citizens raised the vessel and towed it around the  
4 Great Lakes ports; and

5 WHEREAS, In 1931 the Commonwealth began an extensive  
6 restoration effort on the ship only to later see the ship again  
7 become decayed; and

8 WHEREAS, By the early 1980s the Historic Watercraft Society  
9 began efforts to design and build a reconstruction of the  
10 Niagara; and

11 WHEREAS, The replica of Commodore Perry's flagship was  
12 completed in 1990, enabling it to be an active sailing ship  
13 traveling to ports along the Atlantic seaboard and providing  
14 education and historic interpretation; and

15 WHEREAS, The Flagship Niagara League and the Pennsylvania  
16 Historical and Museum Commission enthusiastically support the  
17 commemoration of the United States Brig Niagara; therefore be it

18 RESOLVED (the Senate concurring), That the General Assembly  
19 memorialize the Citizens' Stamp Advisory Committee of the United  
20 States Postal Service Board of Governors to issue a stamp  
21 commemorating the United States Brig Niagara; and be it further

22 RESOLVED, That a copy of this resolution be transmitted to  
23 the Citizens' Stamp Advisory Committee and to each member of  
24 Congress from Pennsylvania.