

THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF PENNSYLVANIA

HOUSE RESOLUTION

No. 25

Session of
2010

INTRODUCED BY HENNESSEY, KILLION, BAKER, BEYER, BOYLE, BRADFORD, BRIGGS, CALTAGIRONE, CARROLL, D. COSTA, CREIGHTON, DEASY, DeLUCA, DiGIROLAMO, EVERETT, GALLOWAY, GOODMAN, HARKINS, HARPER, HELM, HESS, M. KELLER, KNOWLES, KOTIK, LENTZ, MAHONEY, McCALL, McGEEHAN, McILVAINE SMITH, MICOZZIE, MURPHY, MURT, D. O'BRIEN, M. O'BRIEN, PASHINSKI, PHILLIPS, QUIGLEY, READSHAW, SCAVELLO, SEIP, SIPTROTH, K. SMITH, S. H. SMITH, WAGNER AND YOUNGBLOOD, AUGUST 2, 2010

REFERRED TO COMMITTEE ON INTERGOVERNMENTAL AFFAIRS, AUGUST 2, 2010

A RESOLUTION

1 Supporting the Unification of Ireland.

2 WHEREAS, Ireland and its people are an ancient and distinct
3 island nation and the people of Ireland have a right and
4 responsibility to govern themselves; and

5 WHEREAS, Human and civil rights derive "their just powers
6 from the consent of the governed" and are best guaranteed by
7 people freely elected by democratic means to an independent
8 government; and

9 WHEREAS, The logic of history, international law, human
10 rights and peace dictate the reunification of the island of
11 Ireland and the reality of the moment, in the peace process, the
12 Good Friday Agreement, the delolved Assembly and the development
13 of the all-Ireland institutions of governance, attest to this
14 momentum; and

1 WHEREAS, In the past the House of Representatives of the
2 Commonwealth of Pennsylvania adopted the MacBride Principles for
3 Northern Ireland and strongly endorsed passage of the Good
4 Friday Agreement among the previously warring parties, in part
5 because of the dedication as well as bipartisan support of three
6 separate Presidents of the United States, in seeing the Good
7 Friday Agreement to fruition and formation of the Assembly; and

8 WHEREAS, The contributions of the Irish-born and of Irish
9 Americans to the United States of America and to the
10 Commonwealth of Pennsylvania are legion; and

11 WHEREAS, The Commonwealth of Pennsylvania is home to a
12 significant percentage of Americans whose ancestors migrated in
13 times of famine and war to seek a better life, but in whose
14 hearts still remains a desire for peace and unification in their
15 ancestral home; therefore be it

16 RESOLVED, That the House of Representatives of the
17 Commonwealth of Pennsylvania strongly support the unification of
18 Ireland, by supporting all peaceful political actions that will
19 result in the final reunification of the island of Ireland
20 through all electoral and diplomatic means necessary; and be it
21 further

22 RESOLVED, That copies of this resolution be forwarded to all
23 members of the Pennsylvania Congressional Delegation, the
24 Governor of Pennsylvania, as well as President Barack Obama,
25 Vice President Joseph Biden, United States Secretary of State
26 Hillary Clinton, the United States Ambassador to Ireland, the
27 Taoiseach and the President of Ireland.