

THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF PENNSYLVANIA

HOUSE RESOLUTION

No. 799 Session of 2010

INTRODUCED BY PASHINSKI, HARKINS, MILLARD, ADOLPH, BAKER, BARRAR, BELFANTI, BEYER, BISHOP, BOBACK, BOYD, BOYLE, BRENNAN, BRIGGS, BROOKS, CALTAGIRONE, CLYMER, COHEN, CONKLIN, D. COSTA, CREIGHTON, DeLUCA, DENLINGER, DePASQUALE, DiGIROLAMO, DONATUCCI, J. EVANS, FABRIZIO, FAIRCHILD, FLECK, FREEMAN, GEIST, GEORGE, GERGELY, GIBBONS, GINGRICH, GODSHALL, GOODMAN, GRELL, GRUCELA, HARHART, HELM, HENNESSEY, HESS, HICKERNELL, JOSEPHS, KAUFFMAN, KILLION, KIRKLAND, KNOWLES, KORTZ, KOTIK, KULA, LEVDANSKY, LONGIETTI, MAHONEY, MAJOR, MANDERINO, MANN, MARKOSEK, MARSHALL, McCALL, McGEEHAN, MELIO, MICCARELLI, MICOZZIE, MIRABITO, MOUL, MUNDY, MURT, M. O'BRIEN, O'NEILL, PALLONE, PARKER, PHILLIPS, PICKETT, PYLE, QUINN, RAPP, READSHAW, REICHLEY, ROEBUCK, SAINATO, SANTARSIERO, SANTONI, SAYLOR, SCHRODER, SEIP, SHAPIRO, SIPTROTH, STERN, STEVENSON, STURLA, SWANGER, J. TAYLOR, THOMAS, VITALI, VULAKOVICH, WANSACZ, WATSON, YOUNGBLOOD AND YUDICHAK, MAY 11, 2010

INTRODUCED AS NONCONTROVERSIAL RESOLUTION UNDER RULE 35, MAY 11, 2010

A RESOLUTION

1 Offering condolences to the people of Poland on the tragic death
2 of President Lech Kaczynski, First Lady Maria Kaczynska, and
3 dozens of other Polish military and governmental officials
4 killed in a disastrous plane crash on April 10 in western
5 Russia.

6 WHEREAS, On April 10, 2010, Polish President Lech Kaczynski,
7 First Lady Maria Kaczynska, and more than 90 other people,
8 including dozens of high ranking Polish military and
9 governmental officials, were traveling by plane to the site of
10 the Katyn massacre in western Russia; and

11 WHEREAS, This event would mark the 70th Anniversary of the

Katyn massacre in which an estimated 22,000 Polish soldiers were killed by Soviet secret police in 1940; and

WHEREAS, In the early morning hours of April 10, the President's plane attempted to land in thick fog at the Smolensk airport in western Russia, missed the runway, and crashed; and

WHEREAS, All 97 people on board were killed; and

WHEREAS, Among those killed in addition to the President and First Lady were some of Poland's highest ranking military and governmental leaders, including the National Bank President, the Deputy Parliament Speaker, at least three lawmakers, the Army Chief of Staff, the Navy Chief Commander and the head of the Olympic Committee; and

WHEREAS, President Kaczynski was a leading figure in Poland's Solidarity movement, which helped to end the Soviet Union's Communist hold on the country two decades ago; and

WHEREAS, President Kaczynski had a lifelong passion for democratic reforms in Poland, being interned under martial law for his involvement in the Solidarity movement, and being kept in an internment camp in Strzebielinek from December 1981 to October 1982; and

WHEREAS, President Kaczynski held a high number of positions in Polish government including President of the Supreme Chamber of Control, Minister of Justice, and most recently served as Mayor of Warsaw before his election as president; and

WHEREAS, President Kaczynski had a long commitment to fighting crime and actively sought out corruption in Polish society; and

WHEREAS, Polish culture and traditions have had a tremendous impact on this Commonwealth; and

WHEREAS, The tragic plane crash on April 10, 2010, represents

1 not only an immense loss to the Polish people, but to the entire
2 international community as a whole; and

3 WHEREAS, It is fitting and proper to join the international
4 community in its outpouring of grief and support to the country
5 of Poland; therefore be it

6 RESOLVED, That the House of Representatives send its
7 condolences to the people of Poland over their profound loss.