

THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF PENNSYLVANIA

# HOUSE RESOLUTION

No. 935 Session of  
2012

INTRODUCED BY YOUNGBLOOD, DONATUCCI, BROWNLEE, M. O'BRIEN,  
THOMAS, DELISSIO, JAMES, PARKER, V. BROWN, PAYTON, MCGEEHAN,  
W. KELLER, JOSEPHS AND WATERS, OCTOBER 23, 2012

INTRODUCED AS NONCONTROVERSIAL RESOLUTION UNDER RULE 35, OCTOBER  
23, 2012

## A RESOLUTION

1 Honoring the life of former United States Senator Arlen J.  
2 Specter and extending condolences to his family.

3 WHEREAS, Arlen J. Specter, husband, father, grandfather,  
4 accomplished attorney and former Senator who selflessly served  
5 his State and his country, passed away on October 14, 2012; and

6 WHEREAS, Mr. Specter, the youngest child of Lillie and Harry  
7 Specter, was born on February 12, 1930, in Wichita, Kansas; and

8 WHEREAS, Mr. Specter graduated from the University of  
9 Pennsylvania in 1951 and from Yale University Law School in  
10 1956; and

11 WHEREAS, Mr. Specter served in the United States Air Force  
12 from 1951 to 1953 and obtained the rank of Second Lieutenant  
13 within the Air Force Office of Special Investigation; and

14 WHEREAS, Mr. Specter was admitted to the Pennsylvania Bar in  
15 1956, the New Jersey Bar in 1979 and the District of Columbia  
16 Bar in 1983; and

17 WHEREAS, Mr. Specter opened a law practice, Specter & Katz,

1 with Marvin Katz; and

2 WHEREAS, Mr. Specter served as Assistant District Attorney of  
3 Philadelphia from 1959 to 1964, and then as District Attorney of  
4 Philadelphia from 1966 to 1974; and

5 WHEREAS, Mr. Specter served as assistant counsel to the  
6 President's Commission on the Assassination of President Kennedy  
7 (Warren Commission) where he coauthored the "single bullet  
8 theory"; and

9 WHEREAS, Mr. Specter was first elected to the Senate in 1980  
10 and is the longest serving Senator in Pennsylvania's history,  
11 serving from January 1, 1981, to January 3, 2011; and

12 WHEREAS, In his role as Senator, Mr. Specter has chaired and  
13 belonged to many committees, and has authored legislation with a  
14 lasting impact on America; and

15 WHEREAS, In 2011 Mr. Specter taught as an adjunct professor  
16 at the University of Pennsylvania Law School where he taught a  
17 course on the relationship of Congress and the United States  
18 Supreme Court; and

19 WHEREAS, Mr. Specter continuously gave to the community,  
20 specifically, in 2011, he donated historical papers and  
21 memorabilia dating from his career as a Philadelphia District  
22 Attorney to his service as a United States Senator, including  
23 his materials associated with his role as assistant counsel on  
24 the Warren Commission to Philadelphia University; and

25 WHEREAS, Mr. Specter was a principled statesman who through  
26 his courage and determination did much for Pennsylvania and this  
27 country; therefore be it

28 RESOLVED, That the House of Representatives honor the life of  
29 former Senator Arlen J. Specter, express its sadness upon the  
30 passing of its former colleague and offer condolences to his

1 wife and family; and be it further

2       RESOLVED, That a copy of this resolution be transmitted to

3 his widow, Joan Specter.