THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF PENNSYLVANIA

HOUSE RESOLUTION

No. 333

Session of 2000

INTRODUCED BY CAPPABIANCA, ARMSTRONG, BEBKO-JONES, BELARDI, BROWNE, BUXTON, CALTAGIRONE, CARN, CLARK, L. I. COHEN, CORRIGAN, COSTA, DAILEY, DEMPSEY, DeWEESE, DONATUCCI, FICHTER, FRANKEL, GEORGE, GRUCELA, HARHAI, HARHART, HENNESSEY, HERMAN, HERSHEY, LAUGHLIN, LESCOVITZ, MANN, MASLAND, McNAUGHTON, S. MILLER, MUNDY, MYERS, ORIE, PETRARCA, PHILLIPS, PIPPY, RAMOS, ROBINSON, ROONEY, ROSS, RUBLEY, SANTONI, SATHER, SCHRODER, SCHULER, SCRIMENTI, SEYFERT, SOLOBAY, STABACK, E. Z. TAYLOR, THOMAS, TIGUE, TULLI, WALKO, WATERS, WOJNAROSKI, WRIGHT AND YUDICHAK, JANUARY 12, 2000

INTRODUCED AS NONCONTROVERSIAL RESOLUTION UNDER RULE 35, JANUARY 12, 2000

A RESOLUTION

- 1 Designating the week of January 10 through 17, 2000, as "Martin Luther King, Jr., Holiday Week" in Pennsylvania.
- 3 WHEREAS, Martin Luther King, Jr., born on January 15, 1929,
- 4 in Atlanta, Georgia, followed in his father's and grandfather's
- 5 footsteps by becoming a Baptist minister after graduation from
- 6 Morehouse College in 1948 and Crozer Theological Seminary in
- 7 1951; and
- 8 WHEREAS, He received his doctorate from Boston University in
- 9 1955; and
- 10 WHEREAS, In 1954, as pastor of the Dexter Avenue Baptist
- 11 Church in Montgomery, Alabama, Dr. King organized a citywide
- 12 boycott of the city's segregated busing system which led to a
- 13 United States Supreme Court decision forcing desegregation of

- 1 the buses; and
- 2 WHEREAS, Throughout this and later civil rights protests, Dr.
- 3 King espoused the philosophy of nonviolent passive resistance
- 4 and civil disobedience; and
- 5 WHEREAS, In 1957, Dr. King moved back to Atlanta to join his
- 6 father as associate pastor of the Ebenezer Baptist Church and
- 7 organized the Southern Christian Leadership Conference to fight
- 8 segregation and discrimination throughout the south; and
- 9 WHEREAS, During the following years, he was frequently
- 10 arrested, beaten, jailed and threatened with violence as a
- 11 result of his protest activities; and
- 12 WHEREAS, Dr. King led a massive voter registration drive in
- 13 Selma, Alabama, resulting in the famous freedom march to
- 14 Montgomery, the state capital; and
- WHEREAS, His famous march on Washington, D.C., in 1963
- 16 culminated in a great rally at the Lincoln Memorial at which he
- 17 gave his immortal "I have a dream" speech; and
- 18 WHEREAS, Dr. King's efforts resulted in enactment of the
- 19 Federal Civil Rights Act of 1964; and
- 20 WHEREAS, His personal sacrifices and determined leadership of
- 21 the civil rights movement in the United States were formally
- 22 recognized in 1964 when he received the Nobel Peace Prize; and
- 23 WHEREAS, Dr. King was assassinated in 1968 while in Memphis,
- 24 Tennessee, to organize a "poor people's campaign"; and
- 25 WHEREAS, The third Monday of January has been designated as a
- 26 national holiday in order to give all Americans an opportunity
- 27 to reflect upon the profound impact Dr. King has had on life in
- 28 the United States; therefore be it
- 29 RESOLVED, That the House of Representatives urge all
- 30 Pennsylvanians to be mindful of the spirit and work of Dr.

- 1 Martin Luther King, Jr., and to remember his commitment to peace
- 2 and his dedication to equality for all human beings on the
- 3 designated week of his remembrance, January 10 through 17, 2000,
- 4 and throughout the year.