A RESOLUTION

Designating March 30, 2020, as "A State Day of Humiliation, Fasting and Prayer" in Pennsylvania.

WHEREAS, On March 30, 1863, President Abraham Lincoln proclaimed April 30, 1863, as a National Day of Humiliation, Fasting and Prayer; and

WHEREAS, Since March 11, 2020, the United States has been in a time of crisis; and

WHEREAS, During the pandemic of 2020 and the ensuing uncertainty and anxiety of this time, Pennsylvanians may be comforted by turning to a day of humiliation, fasting and prayer as well as the wise words of our great President Abraham Lincoln; and

WHEREAS, The House of Representatives devoutly recognizes the Supreme Authority and just Government of Almighty God in all the affairs of men and of nations; and

WHEREAS, It is the duty of nations as well as of men to own their dependence upon the overruling power of God, to confess their sins and transgressions in humble sorrow; and
WHEREAS, With assured hope that genuine repentance will lead
to mercy and pardon, and to recognize the sublime truth,
announced in the Holy Scriptures and proven by all history: that
those nations only are blessed whose God is the Lord; and
WHEREAS, Insomuch as we know that, by His divine law, nations
like individuals are subjected to punishments and chastisement
in this world; and
WHEREAS, May we not justly fear that the awful calamity of
the pandemic, which now desolates this Commonwealth may be but a
punishment inflicted upon us for our presumptuous sins to the
needful end of our national reformation as a whole people?; and
WHEREAS, We have been the recipients of the choicest bounties
of Heaven and we have been preserved these many years in peace
and prosperity; and
WHEREAS, We have grown in numbers, wealth and power as no
other nation has ever grown; and
WHEREAS, But we have forgotten God and we have forgotten the
gracious Hand which preserved us in peace, and multiplied and
enriched and strengthened us; and
WHEREAS, We have vainly imagined, in the deceitfulness of our
hearts, that all these blessings were produced by some superior
wisdom and virtue of our own; and
WHEREAS, Intoxicated with unbroken success, we have become
too self-sufficient to feel the necessity of redeeming and
preserving grace, too proud to pray to the God that made us!; and
WHEREAS, It behooves us then to humble ourselves before the
offended Power, to confess our national sins and to pray for
clemency and forgiveness; therefore be it
RESOLVED, That House of Representatives designate March 30,
2020, as "A State Day of Humiliation, Fasting and Prayer" in Pennsylvania; and be it further

RESOLVED, That the House of Representatives request that all Pennsylvanians abstain on that day from their ordinary secular pursuits, and to unite, at their respective homes, in keeping the day holy to the Lord and devoted to the humble discharge of the religious duties proper to that solemn occasion; and be it further

RESOLVED, That we then rest humbly in the hope authorized by the Divine teachings, that the united cry of the nation will be heard on high and answered with blessing no less than the pardon of our national sins and the restoration of our now divided and suffering country to its former happy condition of unity and peace.