AN ACT

Designating the amethyst as the official State gemstone of the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania.

The General Assembly of the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania hereby enacts as follows:

Section 1. Findings and declarations.

The General Assembly finds and declares as follows:

(1) Pennsylvania is well known for a variety of vast deposits of minerals, including quartz, which is mined in this Commonwealth.

(2) Amethyst is a vibrant, purple gemstone and the most beautiful type of quartz.

(3) Amethyst appropriately represents Pennsylvania because it is found in Delaware County, Pennsylvania, and has a captivating beauty.

(4) Amethyst is the focal point of the crown worn by the winner of the Miss Pennsylvania pageant.

(5) The Miss Pennsylvania crown and the amethyst
The gemstones featured in the crown have many unique connections to Pennsylvania.

(6) The Miss Pennsylvania crown was commissioned by the Pennsylvania Jewelers Association and handmade by Pennsylvania resident and jeweler Jim Seitzer.

(7) The Miss Pennsylvania crown is encrusted with 92 carats of amethyst donated by jewelers throughout Pennsylvania.

(8) The Miss Pennsylvania crown has a design which is inspired by the keystone shape to pay homage to Pennsylvania's nickname, "The Keystone State."

(9) Pennsylvania is nicknamed "The Keystone State" because Pennsylvania was the middle colony of the original 13 American colonies.

(10) Accordingly, a 37 carat amethyst gemstone in the shape of a keystone is at the center of the Miss Pennsylvania crown.

(11) The official State plant of Pennsylvania is the Penngift Crownvetch, commonly known as the "Purple Crown."

(12) It is fitting that Pennsylvania be represented by the beauty of the attractive purple blooms of the "Purple Crown" and the radiant purple amethyst gemstones of the "Purple Crown" worn by Miss Pennsylvania.

Section 2. Official State gemstone.

Amethyst is hereby designated as the official State gemstone of the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania.

Section 3. Effective date.

This act shall take effect immediately.