

THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF PENNSYLVANIA

HOUSE RESOLUTION

No. 344 Session of
2001

INTRODUCED BY J. WILLIAMS, HORSEY, CRUZ, MANDERINO, M. COHEN AND
JOSEPHS, OCTOBER 30, 2001

INTRODUCED AS NONCONTROVERSIAL RESOLUTION UNDER RULE 35,
OCTOBER 30, 2001

A RESOLUTION

1 Designating October 29, 2001, as "William H. Gray III Day" in
2 Pennsylvania.

3 WHEREAS, William H. Gray III was elected in 1978 to the
4 United States House of Representatives where he proudly served
5 as the Chairman of the Democratic Caucus and later as Majority
6 Whip; and

7 WHEREAS, Mr. Gray was a leading advocate for strengthening
8 America's educational systems and served as the Budget Committee
9 Chairman for four years, a monumental accomplishment as he was
10 the highest ranking African American to ever serve in the
11 Congress of the United States; and

12 WHEREAS, Mr. Gray distinguished himself as a consensus
13 builder, providing immeasurable wisdom to the Reagan
14 Administration as the principal intermediary in budget
15 negotiations between Congress and President Reagan and as an
16 assistant to the President in developing and carrying out policy
17 to restore democracy in Haiti; and

1 WHEREAS, Mr. Gray has been president and chief executive
2 officer of the United Negro College Fund, America's oldest and
3 most successful African-American education assistance
4 organization, for the last ten years; and

5 WHEREAS, Mr. Gray has pioneered the Fredrick D. Patterson
6 Research Institute and the Technology Enhancement Capital
7 Campaign; and

8 WHEREAS, Mr. Gray has an inclusive religious and educational
9 personal history, having served as a pastor of the 5,000-member
10 Bright Hope Baptist Church in Philadelphia for more than 20
11 years and as a faculty member and professor of history and
12 religion at St. Peter's College, Jersey City State College,
13 Montclair State College, Eastern Baptist Theological Seminary
14 and Temple University; and

15 WHEREAS, Mr. Gray has been recognized for his hard work and
16 dedication as a recipient of the prestigious Franklin Delano
17 Roosevelt Freedom of Worship Medal, the Medal of Honor from
18 Haitian President Jean-Bertrand Aristide in 1995 and more than
19 65 honorary degrees from America's leading colleges and
20 universities; therefore be it

21 RESOLVED, That the House of Representatives designate October
22 29, 2001, as "William H. Gray III Day" in Pennsylvania.