
THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF PENNSYLVANIA

HOUSE RESOLUTION

No. 636 Session of
2004

INTRODUCED BY HARHAI, MANDERINO, DAILEY, BEBKO-JONES, FABRIZIO, GEORGE, GEIST, GRUCELA, HENNESSEY, HORSEY, KIRKLAND, KOTIK, LESCOVITZ, McILHATTAN, MUNDY, PETRARCA, PISTELLA, SAINATO, SOLOBAY, SURRA, WALKO, TANGRETTI, YUDICHAK, WOJNAROSKI, WASHINGTON, WATERS, THOMAS, GINGRICH, BELARDI, McGEEHAN, ZUG, VEON, SAMUELSON, DIVEN, ROEBUCK, BALDWIN, BELFANTI, BUNT, CAWLEY, CORRIGAN, CRUZ, DeLUCA, DERMODY, DeWEESE, FAIRCHILD, FORCIER, HARHART, HASAY, HERSHEY, JAMES, KENNEY, LEACH, LEVDANSKY, MAJOR, MARKOSEK, S. MILLER, NAILOR, PAYNE, PRESTON, ROHRER, RUBLEY, SATHER, SCHRODER, SHANER, STERN, E. Z. TAYLOR, WILT, WATSON, EACHUS, COSTA, HANNA, COHEN, DONATUCCI, ROBERTS, McNAUGHTON, BIANCUCCI, BUXTON, PETRONE, BASTIAN, BROWNE, CAPPELLI, CLYMER, COY, DALEY, DENLINGER, DiGIROLAMO, J. EVANS, GABIG, GOODMAN, HARRIS, HERMAN, HESS, KELLER, LAUGHLIN, LEDERER, LEWIS, MANN, McGILL, MUSTIO, PALLONE, PICKETT, REICHLEY, ROSS, SANTONI, SCAVELLO, SEMMEL, B. SMITH, T. STEVENSON, TRUE, WEBER, TIGUE, BARD, MARSICO, FICHTER, CRAHALLA, EGOLF, STAIRS AND TRAVAGLIO,
MARCH 24, 2004

INTRODUCED AS NONCONTROVERSIAL RESOLUTION UNDER RULE 35,
MARCH 24, 2004

A RESOLUTION

1 Designating May 15, 2004, as "Major General Jessica L. Wright
2 Day" in Pennsylvania.

3 WHEREAS, Major General Jessica L. Wright was named the 50th
4 Adjutant General and Commander of the Pennsylvania National
5 Guard February 3, 2004, and was sworn in by Governor Edward G.
6 Rendell on March 5, 2004; and

7 WHEREAS, In this cabinet position, General Wright is
8 responsible for command, control and supervision of all Air and
9 Army National Guard units allocated to the Commonwealth, six

1 State-owned veterans' homes, the Scotland School for Veterans'
2 Children and programs for Pennsylvania's 1.3 million veterans;
3 and

4 WHEREAS, General Wright was born in Monessen and began her
5 military career as an enlistee in the Pennsylvania Army National
6 Guard in 1975, after graduating from Alderson Broaddus College
7 with a bachelor's degree in social work; and

8 WHEREAS, General Wright holds a master's degree in management
9 from Webster University in St. Louis; and

10 WHEREAS, After completion of the Information Specialist
11 Course at Fort Benjamin Harrison, Indiana, General Wright
12 attended the Women's Army Corps Officer Orientation/Officer
13 Candidate School at Fort McClellan, Alabama, and the Adjutant
14 General Basic Course at Fort Benjamin Harrison; and

15 WHEREAS, In 1978 General Wright attended the Officers Rotary
16 Wing Aviator Course at Fort Rucker, Alabama, and became the
17 first female Army aviator in the Army National Guard; and

18 WHEREAS, General Wright is also a graduate of the CH-47
19 Aviator Qualification Course, CH-54 Aviator Qualification
20 Course, Medical Service Corps Officer Advanced Course, Command
21 and General Staff College, Army Management Staff College and
22 Army War College Military Fellowship at the Center for Strategic
23 and International Studies in Washington, D.C.; and

24 WHEREAS, General Wright began her service as a member of the
25 Headquarters and Headquarters Detachment, Pennsylvania Army
26 National Guard in 1975; and

27 WHEREAS, Upon completion of flight school, General Wright
28 joined the 228th Aviation Company as a UH-1 and CH-47 pilot, and
29 she was later appointed Adjutant of the 28th Aviation Battalion;
30 and

1 WHEREAS, In 1982 General Wright joined the 1028th
2 Transportation Company (Heavy Helicopter) as the flight
3 operations platoon commander, and in 1983 she joined the Eastern
4 Army National Guard Aviation Training Site, where she served as
5 the assistant operations and training officer and flight
6 operations officer; and

7 WHEREAS, After transferring to the Georgia Army National
8 Guard in 1985, General Wright joined the 1160th Transportation
9 Company (Heavy Helicopter), where she served as the flight
10 operations platoon commander; and

11 WHEREAS, General Wright joined the Title 10 Active Guard and
12 Reserve program in 1986 and was assigned as an assistant
13 professor of military science at Georgia Southern College,
14 Statesboro; and

15 WHEREAS, In 1989 General Wright was reassigned to
16 Headquarters, National Guard Bureau, where she served as
17 personnel staff officer, executive officer and chief of the
18 budget and services branch, chief of the tours management office
19 of the Army National Guard Personnel Directorate and chief,
20 personnel service division of the Army National Guard Personnel
21 Directorate; and

22 WHEREAS, General Wright also served as commander, 28th
23 Aviation Brigade, 28th Infantry Division (Mechanized) based at
24 Fort Indiantown Gap from June 1997 through November 1998, being
25 the first female maneuver brigade commander in the Army; and

26 WHEREAS, Prior to attaining the rank of Deputy Adjutant
27 General - Army, General Wright served as the State Army Aviation
28 Officer; and

29 WHEREAS, General Wright was promoted to her current rank on
30 March 5, 2004; and

1 WHEREAS, General Wright's awards and decorations include the
2 Legion of Merit with oak leaf cluster, Meritorious Service
3 Medal, Army Commendation Medal, Army Achievement Medal, Army
4 Reserve Component Achievement Medal, National Defense Service
5 Medal and Armed Forces Reserve Medal; and

6 WHEREAS, General Wright is a Senior Army Aviator, a recipient
7 of the Army Staff Identification Badge, the Order of St.
8 Michael, the Order of St. Joan de Arc and the ATHENA Award and a
9 member of the ATHENA Foundation board of directors; and

10 WHEREAS, General Wright, who received Federal recognition
11 with the rank of Brigadier General on June 7, 2001, is the first
12 female general officer in the Pennsylvania National Guard; and

13 WHEREAS, General Wright is married to retired Army Lieutenant
14 Colonel Charles E. Wright and has one son; therefore be it

15 RESOLVED, That the House of Representatives honor the
16 Commonwealth's 50th Adjutant General and Commander of the
17 Pennsylvania National Guard by designating May 15, 2004, as
18 "Major General Jessica L. Wright Day" in Pennsylvania.