

THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF PENNSYLVANIA

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# HOUSE RESOLUTION

No. 499 Session of  
2005

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INTRODUCED BY FAIRCHILD, THOMAS, ARGALL, BAKER, BARRAR, BALDWIN,  
BEBKO-JONES, BEYER, BOYD, BUNT, CALTAGIRONE, CAPPELLI, COHEN,  
CRAHALLA, CRUZ, DeWEESE, DiGIROLAMO, J. EVANS, FICHTER,  
FLEAGLE, FREEMAN, GEIST, GINGRICH, GRUCELA, HARRIS,  
HENNESSEY, HERMAN, HERSHEY, HESS, KILLION, KIRKLAND, KOTIK,  
MAJOR, MARKOSEK, MCGILL, McILHATTAN, R. MILLER, S. MILLER,  
MUSTIO, PALLONE, PAYNE, PHILLIPS, PICKETT, PISTELLA,  
READSHAW, ROSS, RUBLEY, SAINATO, SANTONI, SATHER, B. SMITH,  
TIGUE, TRUE, WALKO, WILT, WOJNAROSKI, YOUNGBLOOD AND HARPER,  
NOVEMBER 1, 2005

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INTRODUCED AS NONCONTROVERSIAL RESOLUTION UNDER RULE 35,  
NOVEMBER 1, 2005

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## A RESOLUTION

1 Designating November 15, 2005, as "Pennsylvania GIS Day" in  
2 Pennsylvania.

3 WHEREAS, Pennsylvanians recognize the vital role of  
4 technology in the future growth of this Commonwealth; and

5 WHEREAS, The geospatial technology industry is an information  
6 technology field that uses geographic information systems (GIS),  
7 global positioning systems (GPS) and digital mapping to analyze  
8 information about the location and spatial context of people,  
9 places and things; and

10 WHEREAS, Geospatial technologies are essential tools in  
11 government at all levels to assist effective decision making and  
12 efficient service delivery in public safety, emergency response,  
13 epidemiology, flood mapping and control, economic development,

1 education, workforce analysis, public health, transportation,  
2 agriculture, environmental protection, law enforcement, land-use  
3 planning, historical preservation and many other critical tasks  
4 of government; and

5 WHEREAS, GIS applications are widely used in private industry  
6 in medicine, real estate, insurance and risk management,  
7 forestry, ground and air transportation, logistics,  
8 telecommunications, meteorology, package shipping and delivery,  
9 travel and tourism, advertising, oil and natural gas exploration  
10 and extraction, landscape architecture, agriculture, mining and  
11 other fields; and

12 WHEREAS, The United States Department of Labor has identified  
13 geospatial technology, biotechnology and nanotechnology as the  
14 three technologies with the greatest potential for growth and  
15 job creation; and

16 WHEREAS, Employment in the geospatial technology industry is  
17 growing by 10% to 13% per year, and demand for geospatial  
18 technology services is creating new jobs in a wide range of  
19 occupational fields; and

20 WHEREAS, Eighty-seven percent of geospatial product and  
21 service providers nationwide report that they have difficulty  
22 filling positions requiring geospatial technology skills; and

23 WHEREAS, Pennsylvania is a leader in research and training in  
24 geospatial technology and possesses many of the nation's leading  
25 geospatial technology firms; and

26 WHEREAS, An investment today in our geospatial infrastructure  
27 by government, private industry and academia will keep this  
28 Commonwealth in the forefront of the geospatial technology  
29 industry of tomorrow; therefore be it

30 RESOLVED, That the House of Representatives, in recognition

1 of "National Geography Awareness Week," November 13 through 19,  
2 2005, designate November 15, 2005, as "Pennsylvania GIS Day" in  
3 Pennsylvania.