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THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF PENNSYLVANIA

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# HOUSE RESOLUTION

No. 706 Session of  
2008

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INTRODUCED BY JOSEPHS, BENNINGTON, FRANKEL, YOUNGBLOOD, LEACH,  
THOMAS, SIPTROTH AND MURT, APRIL 8, 2008

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REFERRED TO COMMITTEE ON INTERGOVERNMENTAL AFFAIRS,  
APRIL 8, 2008

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A RESOLUTION

1 Opposing the deportation of Mehdi Kazemi.

2 WHEREAS, Mehdi Kazemi, a 19-year-old Iranian, faces  
3 imprisonment, torture and execution in his homeland for  
4 homosexuality; and

5 WHEREAS, A former boyfriend, executed in Tehran in 2006, had  
6 reported Mr. Kazemi's name to Iranian authorities; and

7 WHEREAS, Mr. Kazemi applied for asylum in the United Kingdom,  
8 where he was a student; and

9 WHEREAS, British authorities initially denied Mr. Kazemi's  
10 asylum request, citing lack of proof of Iranian persecution of  
11 homosexuals; and

12 WHEREAS, The European Union allows only one asylum  
13 application, in one European country, per person; and

14 WHEREAS, Mr. Kazemi has fled to the Netherlands; and

15 WHEREAS, United Kingdom Home Secretary Jacqui Smith is  
16 reviewing the deportation of Mr. Kazemi; therefore be it

17 RESOLVED, That the House of Representatives of the

1 Commonwealth of Pennsylvania oppose the deportation of Mehdi  
2 Kazemi; and be it further  
3       RESOLVED, That a copy of this resolution be transmitted to  
4 United Kingdom Home Secretary Jacqui Smith.