

THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF PENNSYLVANIA

HOUSE RESOLUTION

No. 85 Session of 2009

INTRODUCED BY STURLA, BOYD, BAKER, BARRAR, BEYER, BISHOP, BROWN, BUXTON, COHEN, CONKLIN, CREIGHTON, CUTLER, DeLUCA, DePASQUALE, DIGIROLAMO, DONATUCCI, FLECK, FRANKEL, GEIST, GEORGE, GINGRICH, GOODMAN, GROVE, GRUCELA, HELM, HENNESSEY, HICKERNELL, KORTZ, KOTIK, KULA, MAHONEY, MAJOR, MANN, McCALL, MILLARD, MOUL, MURT, MUSTIO, O'NEILL, PALLONE, PARKER, PAYNE, PHILLIPS, QUINN, REICHLEY, ROCK, ROHRER, ROSS, SAINATO, SANTONI, SCAVELLO, K. SMITH, STABACK, SWANGER, THOMAS, TRUE, VULAKOVICH, WALKO, WATSON AND YOUNGBLOOD, FEBRUARY 18, 2009

INTRODUCED AS NONCONTROVERSIAL RESOLUTION UNDER RULE 35, FEBRUARY 18, 2009

A RESOLUTION

1 Designating April 4, 2009, as "Thaddeus Stevens Day" in
2 Pennsylvania.

3 WHEREAS, Thaddeus Stevens, a prominent figure in the 19th
4 century history of Pennsylvania and the United States, was born
5 in Vermont on April 4, 1792; and

6 WHEREAS, Mr. Stevens lived most of his life in Pennsylvania,
7 teaching, practicing law and serving in the General Assembly
8 from 1833 to 1841 and representing Pennsylvanians in Congress
9 from 1849 to 1853 and again from 1858 until his death in 1868;
10 and

11 WHEREAS, Mr. Stevens notably fought for the preservation of
12 public education in this Commonwealth, for the emancipation of
13 slaves, for passage of the 14th Amendment to the Constitution of
14 the United States and for Reconstruction of the South after the

1 Civil War; and

2 WHEREAS, Mr. Stevens directed that, upon his death, he be
3 buried in an integrated cemetery in the City of Lancaster with
4 this self-composed epitaph on his grave marker: "I have chosen
5 this that I might illustrate in my death the principles which I
6 advocated through a long life, Equality of Man before his
7 Creator"; and

8 WHEREAS, Mr. Stevens left a generous bequest upon his death
9 on August 11, 1868, to establish a school for the relief and
10 refuge of homeless, indigent orphans; and

11 WHEREAS, This bequest evolved to form the Thaddeus Stevens
12 College of Technology, founded to provide solid industrial
13 education to all citizens of this Commonwealth regardless of
14 race or color and is a living monument to the life of Thaddeus
15 Stevens; therefore be it

16 RESOLVED, That the House of Representatives commemorate the
17 anniversary of the birth of this remarkable man by designating
18 April 4, 2009, as "Thaddeus Stevens Day" in Pennsylvania.