

THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF PENNSYLVANIA

# HOUSE RESOLUTION

No. 163 Session of 2009

INTRODUCED BY SANTARSIERO, BELFANTI, BEYER, BOBACK, BURNS, CALTAGIRONE, CONKLIN, D. COSTA, DIGIROLAMO, DONATUCCI, FREEMAN, GEIST, GEORGE, GIBBONS, GOODMAN, GRUCELA, HARHART, HARPER, HELM, HENNESSEY, KORTZ, KOTIK, KULA, MAHONEY, MAJOR, MANDERINO, MANN, MARKOSEK, MARSICO, McCALL, MELIO, MENSCH, MILLARD, MOUL, MURT, O'NEILL, PALLONE, PARKER, PAYNE, PETRI, PHILLIPS, QUINN, RAPP, READSHAW, ROCK, ROSS, SAINATO, SANTONI, SCAVELLO, SEIP, SIPTROTH, K. SMITH, STABACK, SWANGER, VEREB, VULAKOVICH, WALKO, WATSON AND WHEATLEY, MARCH 18, 2009

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

## A RESOLUTION

1 Commemorating April 26, 2009, as "American Folk Artist, Edward  
2 Hicks Day" in Pennsylvania.

3 WHEREAS, After William Penn designed Philadelphia, his "great  
4 town," in 1682, he traveled some 28 miles northeast of  
5 Philadelphia, through a vast tract of land he had purchased from  
6 the local Indians, and allegedly announced, "This is where I  
7 propose to build my 'new town,'" and two years later in 1684,  
8 William Penn's surveyor, Thomas Holme, set forth plans for the  
9 "new town," which came to be known as Newtown; and

10 WHEREAS, Newtown Borough, Bucks County, Pennsylvania, is  
11 celebrating its 325th anniversary in 2009; and

12 WHEREAS, Edward Hicks, (1780 - 1849) was a Quaker minister  
13 and sign painter, and is now considered one of America's

1 greatest folk artists for his paintings of "Peaceable Kingdom";  
2 and

3 WHEREAS, Edward Hicks lived in Newtown most of his life, co-  
4 founded Newtown Friends (Quaker) Meetings in 1815, and is buried  
5 on its grounds; and

6 WHEREAS, On April 26, 2009, Carolyn Weekly, Director of the  
7 Abby Aldrich Rockefeller American Folk Art Museum, Williamsburg,  
8 Virginia, which houses the largest collection of Edward Hicks  
9 paintings, and who is the author of the Kingdoms of Edward  
10 Hicks, will be in Newtown as the guest of Newtown Friends  
11 Meeting, The Newtown Historical Association and The Newtown  
12 325th Anniversary Committee; and

13 WHEREAS, The schoolchildren of Newtown will be creating their  
14 own versions of "The Peaceable Kingdom" in the weeks prior to  
15 April 26 to be publicly exhibited on that day; therefore be it

16 RESOLVED, That the House of Representatives commemorate April  
17 26, 2009, as "American Folk Artist, Edward Hicks Day" in  
18 Pennsylvania in celebration of his life as a Quaker minister and  
19 artist, and in recognition of his remarkable talent, his legacy  
20 of peaceful resolutions to conflict, his high ethical values and  
21 his participation in the development and growth of Newtown  
22 Borough, Bucks County, as it celebrates its 325th anniversary as  
23 a valued part of the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania.