

THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF PENNSYLVANIA

HOUSE RESOLUTION

No. 489 Session of
2009

INTRODUCED BY PAYTON, BEYER, BISHOP, BRENNAN, BRIGGS,
CALTAGIRONE, COHEN, D. COSTA, CUTLER, DAY, DIGIROLAMO,
DONATUCCI, FABRIZIO, FLECK, FRANKEL, GOODMAN, GRUCELA,
HARPER, HENNESSEY, KIRKLAND, KORTZ, KOTIK, MAJOR, MANN,
MARKOSEK, McCALL, McGEEHAN, MELIO, MILLARD, MURPHY, MURT,
M. O'BRIEN, PARKER, PASHINSKI, PHILLIPS, READSHAW, REICHLEY,
SAYLOR, SIPTROTH, THOMAS, VULAKOVICH, WATERS, YOUNGBLOOD AND
MYERS, OCTOBER 6, 2009

INTRODUCED AS NONCONTROVERSIAL RESOLUTION UNDER RULE 35, OCTOBER
6, 2009

A RESOLUTION

1 Recognizing the many contributions of the African-American
2 community in the Frankford area of the City of Philadelphia,
3 the ancestors and descendants of whom have been a part of
4 that historic neighborhood since the 1600s.

5 WHEREAS, The African-American legacy of social contribution
6 in Northeast Philadelphia stretches back to colonial times; and

7 WHEREAS, The Frankford area of the City of Philadelphia
8 became the center of connection and commerce for African
9 Americans migrating from the South during the Industrial
10 Revolution and settling in Northeast Philadelphia; and

11 WHEREAS, The Bethany African Methodist Episcopal Church was
12 an important institution in the Guinea Hill community, as it was
13 the only church available to African Americans living north of
14 Frankford; and

15 WHEREAS, Other churches, such as the historic Holmesburg

1 Mount Zion Baptist Church, have offered more than 100 years of
2 service to the African-American community in Northeast
3 Philadelphia; and

4 WHEREAS, The Northeast Philadelphia African-American
5 community produced such luminaries as Earl Stout, the President
6 of District 33 of the American Federation of State, County and
7 Municipal Employees; and

8 WHEREAS, Other African-American luminaries include Clark
9 Early, Northeast Philadelphia's first African-American lawyer,
10 and Frank Fortson, who was among the first African Americans in
11 this nation to enter Princeton University on an athletic
12 scholarship; and

13 WHEREAS, The African-American community in Northeast
14 Philadelphia has fostered a sense of self-sufficiency for more
15 than 200 years; therefore be it

16 RESOLVED, That the House of Representatives recognize the
17 many significant contributions of the African-American community
18 in the Frankford area of the City of Philadelphia.