

THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF PENNSYLVANIA

HOUSE RESOLUTION

No. 528 Session of
2009

INTRODUCED BY HOUGHTON, SEIP, MATZIE, McCALL, MURPHY, FREEMAN,
BARRAR, BEYER, BISHOP, CALTAGIRONE, D. COSTA, CUTLER,
DIGIROLAMO, DONATUCCI, FAIRCHILD, GEIST, GEORGE, GINGRICH,
GOODMAN, GRUCELA, HARHART, HELM, HENNESSEY, HESS, HICKERNELL,
KORTZ, LONGIETTI, MAHONEY, MAJOR, MANN, MARKOSEK, McGEEHAN,
MELIO, MILLARD, MILLER, MOUL, MUSTIO, M. O'BRIEN, O'NEILL,
PALLONE, PASHINSKI, PAYNE, PICKETT, QUINN, READSHAW,
REICHLEY, SAINATO, SANTONI, SAYLOR, SIPTROTH, SOLOBAY,
SONNEY, STABACK, SWANGER, WALKO AND PARKER, NOVEMBER 10, 2009

INTRODUCED AS NONCONTROVERSIAL RESOLUTION UNDER RULE 35,
NOVEMBER 10, 2009

A RESOLUTION

1 Designating the month of October 2009 as "Wine, Wineries and
2 Grapes Month" in Pennsylvania.

3 WHEREAS, Pennsylvania growers produce many of the finest food
4 products available worldwide; and

5 WHEREAS, Today, the growth of Pennsylvania grapes occurs
6 thanks to the tireless efforts of generations of Pennsylvanians
7 who played instrumental roles in the founding of this nation's
8 great wine industry; and

9 WHEREAS, The United States' first commercial grapevine
10 nursery operated in Montgomery County in southeastern
11 Pennsylvania; and

12 WHEREAS, With approximately 14,000 acres of grapes, this
13 Commonwealth ranks fourth nationally in the amount of grapes
14 grown, including the use of grapes for the production of juices;

1 and

2 WHEREAS, Pennsylvania ranks fifth nationally in the amount of
3 wine grapes produced and eighth in the production of wine; and

4 WHEREAS, Pennsylvania grape growers produce the finest table,
5 jelly and juice grapes, including such diverse varieties as the
6 Catawba, the Concord, the Delaware and the Niagara; and

7 WHEREAS, The largest Concord producing plant in the country
8 operates in this Commonwealth; and

9 WHEREAS, The 114 licensed wineries in this Commonwealth have
10 increased from 84 in 2003, and Pennsylvania is home to an
11 additional 150 wine grape growers; and

12 WHEREAS, According to the Pennsylvania Wine Marketing and
13 Research Program study, production of wine and wine grapes
14 contributes a total of \$2.35 billion to the State's economy,
15 which includes the direct creation of 10,537 jobs and a total
16 direct payroll of \$472 million; and

17 WHEREAS, Wineries attract 894,000 visitors and bring about an
18 estimated \$179.6 million in tourism expenditures; and

19 WHEREAS, The Pennsylvania Liquor Control Board,
20 Pennsylvania's wine industry and other State agencies have
21 promoted this Commonwealth as a "wine-friendly" State; and

22 WHEREAS, October serves as an important month of harvest for
23 Pennsylvania grape growers, and harvest time provides an ideal
24 opportunity to recognize the contributions of grape growers and
25 the entire wine industry to this Commonwealth and to the nation;
26 therefore be it

27 RESOLVED, That the House of Representatives recognize the
28 significant and invaluable contributions made by the grape
29 industry and the wine industry to this Commonwealth's history,
30 economy and quality of life; and be it further

1 RESOLVED, That the House of Representatives designate the
2 month of October 2009 as "Wine, Wineries and Grapes Month" in
3 Pennsylvania; and be it further

4 RESOLVED, That the House of Representatives encourage the
5 citizens of this Commonwealth to celebrate "Wine, Wineries and
6 Grapes Month" by enjoying many of the grape products of
7 Pennsylvania growers and responsibly partaking of favorite
8 Pennsylvania wine products while engaging in the festivities and
9 gaining awareness of the services and products offered by
10 Pennsylvania wineries through all seasons of the year.