

THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF PENNSYLVANIA

# HOUSE RESOLUTION

No. 895 Session of 2010

INTRODUCED BY McILVAINE SMITH, BEYER, BISHOP, BOBACK, BOYD, BOYLE, BRADFORD, BRIGGS, BROWN, BUXTON, CALTAGIRONE, CLYMER, CUTLER, DALEY, DELOZIER, DePASQUALE, DIGIROLAMO, DONATUCCI, EVERETT, FAIRCHILD, FRANKEL, FREEMAN, GEORGE, GIBBONS, GINGRICH, GOODMAN, GRUCELA, HARHAI, HARHART, HARPER, HELM, HENNESSEY, HESS, HORNAMAN, HOUGHTON, KIRKLAND, KORTZ, LENTZ, WATSON, MAHER, MAJOR, MANN, McCALL, McGEEHAN, MICOZZIE, MILLARD, MIRABITO, MOUL, MUNDY, OBERLANDER, M. O'BRIEN, O'NEILL, PALLONE, PARKER, PHILLIPS, PICKETT, QUINN, READSHAW, REICHLEY, ROCK, ROSS, SANTONI, SAYLOR, SCAVELLO, SEIP, SHAPIRO, SIPTROTH, STABACK, STURLA, R. TAYLOR, TRUE, VULAKOVICH AND WAGNER, AUGUST 30, 2010

INTRODUCED AS NONCONTROVERSIAL RESOLUTION UNDER RULE 35, AUGUST 30, 2010

## A RESOLUTION

1 Celebrating the 90th anniversary of the ratification of the 19th  
2 amendment, guaranteeing a woman's right to vote, on August  
3 26, 2010.

4 WHEREAS, August 26, 2010, marks the 90th anniversary of the  
5 ratification of the 19th amendment, guaranteeing a woman's right  
6 to vote; and

7 WHEREAS, Women were denied the right to vote nationally for  
8 144 years after the Declaration of Independence was signed; and

9 WHEREAS, The beginning of the national debate over a woman's  
10 right to vote began at the world's first woman's rights  
11 convention in Seneca Falls, New York, in 1848; and

12 WHEREAS, The campaign for equal voting rights continued for  
13 72 years; and

1 WHEREAS, The 19th amendment was passed by Congress on June 4,  
2 1919, and ratified on August 18, 1920; and

3 WHEREAS, The 19th amendment granted women the right to vote  
4 and states: "The right of citizens of the United States to vote  
5 shall not be denied or abridged by the United States or by any  
6 State on account of sex"; and

7 WHEREAS, The 19th amendment was ratified by the legislatures  
8 of the states of Arizona, Arkansas, California, Colorado, Idaho,  
9 Illinois, Indiana, Iowa, Kansas, Kentucky, Maine, Massachusetts,  
10 Michigan, Minnesota, Missouri, Montana, Nebraska, Nevada, New  
11 Hampshire, New Jersey, New Mexico, New York, North Dakota, Ohio,  
12 Oklahoma, Oregon, Pennsylvania, Rhode Island, South Dakota,  
13 Texas, Utah, Washington, West Virginia, Wisconsin and Wyoming;  
14 and

15 WHEREAS, This year's 90th anniversary of one of the greatest  
16 single expansions of citizenship rights in the United States  
17 presents a remarkable opportunity both to honor the unrelenting  
18 tenacity and spirit of the multitude of women and men who worked  
19 to secure a woman's right to vote and also to illustrate how  
20 much can be achieved in a democratic society by the collective  
21 efforts of citizens committed to political reform; and

22 WHEREAS, It was the hope of our foremothers who fought for  
23 women's suffrage that future generations of women would use that  
24 hard-won vote to make this a better world and to fight for full  
25 equality and justice for women; and

26 WHEREAS, Full participatory rights of women in the political  
27 process are vital to democracy in the United States; therefore  
28 be it

29 RESOLVED, That the House of Representatives celebrate the  
30 90th anniversary of the ratification of the 19th amendment to

1 the United States Constitution and honor the contributions and  
2 achievements of women in the United States; and be it further  
3       RESOLVED, That Pennsylvania reaffirm its commitment to  
4 pursuing policies that achieve political and social equality for  
5 women, commensurate with their role in life in the United States  
6 and society.