

THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF PENNSYLVANIA

# HOUSE RESOLUTION

No. 149 Session of  
2011

INTRODUCED BY CRUZ, YOUNGBLOOD, W. KELLER, MCGEEHAN AND  
CALTAGIRONE, MARCH 23, 2011

REFERRED TO COMMITTEE ON STATE GOVERNMENT, MARCH 23, 2011

## A RESOLUTION

1 Urging the Citizens' Advisory Committee of the United States  
2 Postal Service to issue a United States postal stamp honoring  
3 the heroism of the "Borinqueneers" of the 65th Infantry  
4 Regiment of the United States Army, the only all-Hispanic  
5 unit in the history of the United States Army.

6 WHEREAS, The 65th Infantry Regiment of the United States Army  
7 was created in 1899 by the Congress of the United States as a  
8 segregated unit composed primarily of Puerto Ricans with mostly  
9 continental officers; and

10 WHEREAS, The unit was nicknamed the "Borinqueneers" after  
11 "Borinquen," the word given to Puerto Ricans by the island's  
12 original inhabitants, the Taino Indians; and

13 WHEREAS, The Borinqueneers displayed valiant and meritorious  
14 service in World War I, World War II and the Korean War; and

15 WHEREAS, During the Korean War, the 65th Infantry Regiment  
16 earned praise from General MacArthur, participated in nine major  
17 campaigns and was awarded a Presidential Unit Citation, a  
18 Meritorious Unit Commendation and two Republic of Korea Unit  
19 citations; and

1 WHEREAS, Individual members of the unit during the Korean War  
2 earned ten Distinguished Service Crosses, 421 Silver Stars and  
3 156 Bronze Stars; and

4 WHEREAS, In 1956, the Borinqueneers became the last  
5 segregated unit to be deactivated and became the only unit ever  
6 to be transferred from an active United States Army component to  
7 the Puerto Rican National Guard; and

8 WHEREAS, The 1st Battalion, 65th Infantry Regiment was  
9 assigned to the 92nd Infantry Brigade and today continues its  
10 service during the Global War on Terrorism; and

11 WHEREAS, Since inception of the unit, more than 20,000 Puerto  
12 Ricans have served as Borinqueneers, but their contributions and  
13 sacrifices have gone largely unnoticed by the country at large;  
14 and

15 WHEREAS, Honoring the Borinqueneers with a commemorative  
16 United States postal stamp would be a fitting and lasting  
17 tribute for the brave soldiers of the 65th Infantry Regiment and  
18 would serve to educate the American public about their existence  
19 and service; therefore be it

20 RESOLVED, That the House of Representatives of the  
21 Commonwealth of Pennsylvania urge the Citizens' Advisory  
22 Committee of the United States Postal Service to issue a United  
23 States postal stamp honoring the heroism of the "Borinqueneers"  
24 of the 65th Infantry Regiment of the United States Army, the  
25 only all-Hispanic unit in the history of the United States Army.