THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF PENNSYLVANIA

HOUSE RESOLUTION

No. 22

Session of 2013

INTRODUCED BY GILLEN, EMRICK, CALTAGIRONE, AUMENT, PICKETT, VEREB, GINGRICH, LONGIETTI, MAJOR, CONKLIN, BISHOP, KNOWLES, DIGIROLAMO, SANTARSIERO, MILLARD, MICOZZIE, KAUFFMAN, MCNEILL, CAUSER, HAHN, SABATINA, BAKER, RAPP, KAVULICH, KORTZ, HARHART, D. COSTA, TALLMAN, YOUNGBLOOD, EVERETT, GROVE, HESS, READSHAW, FLECK, ROCK, WATSON, PAYNE, MILLER, GOODMAN, DENLINGER AND BROOKS, JANUARY 16, 2013

INTRODUCED AS NONCONTROVERSIAL RESOLUTION UNDER RULE 35, JANUARY 16, 2013

A RESOLUTION

- Designating February 9, 2013, as "The Battle of Guadalcanal Remembrance Day" in Pennsylvania.
- 3 WHEREAS, February 9, 2013, marks the 70th anniversary of the
- 4 Battle of Guadalcanal, the first major Allied offensive action
- 5 in the Pacific Theater during World War II; and
- 6 WHEREAS, The six-month battle, from August 7, 1942, to
- 7 February 9, 1943, claimed the lives of 1,592 American troops,
- 8 wounded 4,183 and disabled thousands more through tropical
- 9 diseases; and
- 10 WHEREAS, The code named "Operation Watchtower" was
- 11 orchestrated as a follow-up to the victories at the Battle of
- 12 Coral Sea and the Battle of Midway and was successful in ending
- 13 Japanese expansion and establishing Allied air superiority in
- 14 the southern Pacific; and
- 15 WHEREAS, The Japanese construction of an airfield on

- 1 Guadalcanal, an island, part of the Solomon Islands off the
- 2 eastern coast of Australia, would have threatened the sea lines
- 3 of communication with Australia as well as protected Japan's
- 4 major base at Rabaul in Papua, New Guinea; and
- 5 WHEREAS, The victory at Guadalcanal was a militarily
- 6 strategic victory as it allowed for further advances in the
- 7 South Pacific and laid the foundation for the "island hopping"
- 8 campaigns; and
- 9 WHEREAS, The victory at Guadalcanal was a psychological
- 10 victory for the American military which had beaten the best of
- 11 the Empire of Japan's land, air and naval forces; and
- 12 WHEREAS, The victory at Guadalcanal generated increased
- 13 optimism and attention for the United States' war effort in the
- 14 Pacific; and
- 15 WHEREAS, The gallant forces who fought battles, disease,
- 16 malnutrition and extreme weather conditions displayed incredible
- 17 bravery and stamina; therefore be it
- 18 RESOLVED, That the House of Representatives commemorate
- 19 February 9, 2013, as "The Battle of Guadalcanal Remembrance
- 20 Day"; and be it further
- 21 RESOLVED, That the House of Representatives encourage local
- 22 governments and communities throughout this Commonwealth to
- 23 conduct appropriate " The Battle of Guadalcanal Remembrance Day"
- 24 observances to ensure that the many sacrifices of that day are
- 25 not forgotten.