

THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF PENNSYLVANIA

# HOUSE RESOLUTION

No. 180 Session of 2013

INTRODUCED BY PASHINSKI, DIGIROLAMO, HARKINS, MCGEEHAN, O'NEILL, CALTAGIRONE, CUTLER, W. KELLER, MICOZZIE, MILLARD, KAVULICH, KINSEY, MULLERY, SAMUELSON, EVERETT, VEREB, BIZZARRO, ROSS, O'BRIEN, HARHART, DeLUCA, FABRIZIO, MCNEILL, READSHAW, SAINATO, DENLINGER, MAHONEY, CLYMER, HENNESSEY, GROVE, COHEN, MARSICO, FLECK, KORTZ, PAINTER, D. COSTA, WATSON, FRANKEL, P. DALEY, GABLER, GILLEN, QUINN, PARKER, MCCARTER, GOODMAN AND MATZIE, MARCH 21, 2013

INTRODUCED AS NONCONTROVERSIAL RESOLUTION UNDER RULE 35, MARCH 21, 2013

## A RESOLUTION

1 Honoring the life, bravery and contributions of Casimir Pulaski,  
2 Polish nobleman, soldier and military commander, commonly  
3 known as the "Father of the American Cavalry."

4 WHEREAS, Casimir Pulaski was born in Warsaw, Poland, on March  
5 6, 1745; and

6 WHEREAS, At 15 years of age, Pulaski joined members of the  
7 Polish nobility in opposing the Russian and Prussian  
8 interference in Polish affairs; and

9 WHEREAS, In 1771, Pulaski and his army defeated Russian  
10 forces in Poland, while gaining fame as a cavalry commander in  
11 the patriotic anti-Russian Confederation of Bar, becoming its  
12 commander in chief; and

13 WHEREAS, Pulaski was outlawed by Russia for his actions  
14 toward Polish liberty and later traveled to Paris where he met  
15 Benjamin Franklin who encouraged him to support the colonies

1 against England in the American Revolution; and

2 WHEREAS, Pulaski was impressed with the ideals of a new  
3 nation struggling to be free, volunteered his services and moved  
4 to America; and

5 WHEREAS, In 1777, Pulaski arrived in Philadelphia where he  
6 met General Washington, Commander-in-Chief of the Continental  
7 Army; and

8 WHEREAS, Prior to meeting Pulaski, Washington was informed of  
9 him through Benjamin Franklin who described the young Pole as  
10 "an officer renowned throughout Europe for the courage and  
11 bravery he displayed in defense of his country's freedom"; and

12 WHEREAS, On September 11, 1777, Pulaski fought for the first  
13 time in America at Brandywine Creek and distinguished himself as  
14 a brilliant military tactician; and

15 WHEREAS, In 1778, Pulaski received the consent of Congress  
16 for the establishment of a special infantry and a cavalry; and

17 WHEREAS, Pulaski, who became known as the "Father of the  
18 American Cavalry," demanded much of his men and trained them in  
19 the tactics he used in his fight for freedom in Poland; and

20 WHEREAS, Then again, in the Battle of Germantown, Pulaski's  
21 skill in warfare aided General Washington and his men in  
22 securing victory for American forces; and

23 WHEREAS, On May 8, 1779, Pulaski and his Legion successfully  
24 defended Charleston, South Carolina, which was under British  
25 attack; and

26 WHEREAS, Later, in October 1779, the unit engaged the British  
27 again in the Siege of Savannah where General Pulaski, charging  
28 into battle on horseback, fell to the ground by the blast of a  
29 cannon; and

30 WHEREAS, Pulaski's enemies were so impressed with his courage

1 that they spared him the musket and permitted him to be carried  
2 from the battlefield; and

3 WHEREAS, Pulaski died several days later on October 15, 1779,  
4 at 34 years of age; therefore be it

5 RESOLVED, That the House of Representatives recognize Casimir  
6 Pulaski for his heroism and his fight for American freedom.