
THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF PENNSYLVANIA

SENATE RESOLUTION

No. 44 Session of
2013

INTRODUCED BY VULAKOVICH, COSTA, ALLOWAY, BREWSTER, BRUBAKER,
ERICKSON, FARNESE, FERLO, FONTANA, GREENLEAF, MENSCH,
PILEGGI, RAFFERTY, SMITH, STACK, TARTAGLIONE, TEPLITZ,
WASHINGTON, WAUGH, WOZNIAC AND YUDICHAK, MARCH 11, 2013

INTRODUCED AND ADOPTED, MARCH 11, 2013

A RESOLUTION

1 Honoring the life of Evelyn R. Stypula, Acting Chair of the
2 Governor's Advisory Committee for People with Disabilities.

3 WHEREAS, Evelyn Stypula, who served as the Acting Chair of
4 the Governor's Advisory Committee for People with Disabilities
5 and was one of the Commonwealth's leading advocates for people
6 with disabilities, died on February 20, 2013; and

7 WHEREAS, Ms. Stypula was born on September 26, 1945, with
8 cerebral palsy and other severe physical deformities; and

9 WHEREAS, Ms. Stypula's late father, Charles Stypula,
10 encouraged her to do whatever it took to accomplish her goals;
11 and

12 WHEREAS, At the age of 13, Ms. Stypula volunteered for United
13 Cerebral Palsy of Pittsburgh; and

14 WHEREAS, Ms. Stypula followed her dreams and earned a
15 bachelor of science degree in special education, a bachelor of
16 science degree in elementary education from Edinboro University
17 and a master of education degree in rehabilitation from the

1 University of Pittsburgh; and

2 WHEREAS, Ms. Stypula founded and served as President of Big
3 Heart Bridges, a group to support those with disabilities; and

4 WHEREAS, Ms. Stypula was a member of the Advisory Committee
5 of the Office of Vocational Rehabilitation, the Allegheny County
6 365 Committee and the Three Rivers Center for Independent
7 Living; and

8 WHEREAS, In 2007, Governor Ed Rendell appointed Ms. Stypula
9 to the Governor's Advisory Committee for People with
10 Disabilities; and

11 WHEREAS, In 2010, Ms. Stypula was reappointed to the
12 Governor's Advisory Committee for People with Disabilities; and

13 WHEREAS, Ms. Stypula was serving as the Acting Chair of the
14 Governor's Advisory Committee for People with Disabilities at
15 the time of her death; and

16 WHEREAS, Amongst her many accomplishments, Ms. Stypula
17 assisted in the creation of Pennsylvania's ACCESS Para-Transit
18 system for people with disabilities in Allegheny County; and

19 WHEREAS, As an advocate, Ms. Stypula reviewed campaigns in
20 support of legislation for cross-disabled people and was a
21 consultant for the Pennsylvania Governor's Conference for Women;
22 and

23 WHEREAS, Ms. Stypula supported the needs of disabled members
24 of her community by standing up for their basic rights,
25 including transportation, housing and employment; and

26 WHEREAS, Ms. Stypula believed that the most rewarding aspect
27 of her career was being able to work for the Office of
28 Disabilities, which was created by an executive order and
29 assisted disabled individuals through advocacy initiatives; and

30 WHEREAS, One of Ms. Stypula's favorite quotes was, "anything

1 and everything is possible"; therefore be it

2 RESOLVED, That the Senate honor the life of Evelyn Stypula,
3 express sorrow over the loss of this outstanding public servant
4 and extend heartfelt condolences to her family.