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THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF PENNSYLVANIA

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# HOUSE RESOLUTION

No. 98

Session of  
2015

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INTRODUCED BY PAYNE, READSHAW, BARRAR, V. BROWN, CALTAGIRONE,  
D. COSTA, SCHLEGEL CULVER, DAVIS, DAY, DeLUCA, DIAMOND,  
DiGIROLAMO, DONATUCCI, EVERETT, FARINA, GIBBONS, GINGRICH,  
GODSHALL, GRELL, GROVE, HAHN, HARHART, HARPER, HEFFLEY,  
HENNESSEY, HICKERNELL, IRVIN, JAMES, JOZWIAK, M. K. KELLER,  
KINSEY, KIRKLAND, KORTZ, KOTIK, LONGIETTI, MAJOR, MALONEY,  
MARSHALL, MASSER, MATZIE, METZGAR, MILLARD, MURT, O'NEILL,  
PETRI, PICKETT, REED, ROSS, ROZZI, SAYLOR, SCHWEYER, SONNEY,  
THOMAS, VEREB, WATSON, WHEATLEY AND WHEELAND,  
FEBRUARY 23, 2015

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INTRODUCED AS NONCONTROVERSIAL RESOLUTION UNDER RULE 35,  
FEBRUARY 23, 2015

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## A RESOLUTION

1 Commemorating the 284th anniversary of the establishment of the  
2 Grand Lodge of Free and Accepted Masons of Pennsylvania.

3 WHEREAS, The Fraternity of Free and Accepted Masons is the  
4 oldest, largest and most widely known fraternal organization in  
5 the world; and

6 WHEREAS, In 1717, four lodges of Freemasons meeting in  
7 London, England, formed the first Grand Lodge; and

8 WHEREAS, The first Grand Lodge chartered Symbolic Lodges and  
9 Provincial Grand Lodges in many countries, including the United  
10 States; and

11 WHEREAS, Today, there are 51 Grand Lodges in the United  
12 States and approximately 1.6 million Freemasons; and

13 WHEREAS, The Grand Lodge of Free and Accepted Masons of

1 Pennsylvania (Lodge) was established June 24, 1731, by delegates  
2 from the 13 lodges holding charters from the Provincial Grand  
3 Lodge of Pennsylvania; and

4 WHEREAS, The Lodge is one of the oldest Grand Lodges in this  
5 country; and

6 WHEREAS, The Lodge is of the Ancients' tradition and its  
7 ancestor Grand Lodge is the Grand Lodge of Free and Accepted  
8 Masons of England, which was founded in 1751; and

9 WHEREAS, The headquarters of the Lodge is in the Masonic  
10 Temple at One North Broad Street in Philadelphia; and

11 WHEREAS, Mr. Robert J. Bateman is the current Grand Master of  
12 the Lodge; and

13 WHEREAS, Freemasonry is a way of life that teaches tolerance  
14 towards all mankind; and

15 WHEREAS, According to the Lodge, "Freemasonry is kindness in  
16 the home, honesty in business, courtesy in society, fairness in  
17 work, pity and concern for the unfortunate, resistance towards  
18 evil, help for the weak, forgiveness for the penitent, love for  
19 one another and above all reverence and love for God"; and

20 WHEREAS, It is fitting to recognize the long history and  
21 positive contributions of the Lodge and its members to this  
22 Commonwealth; therefore be it

23 RESOLVED, That the House of Representatives commemorate the  
24 284th anniversary of the establishment of the Grand Lodge of  
25 Free and Accepted Masons of Pennsylvania.