

THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF PENNSYLVANIA

# HOUSE RESOLUTION

No. 748 Session of 2015

INTRODUCED BY MALONEY, CORBIN, BARRAR, QUIGLEY, BAKER, KILLION, READSHAW, REGAN, DUSH, SONNEY, CALTAGIRONE, HENNESSEY, KIRKLAND, LONGIETTI, STAATS, R. BROWN, MACKENZIE, MAJOR, MILLARD, COHEN, WHITE, BENNINGHOFF, SAINATO, HARHART, SACCONI, HAHN, NEILSON, COX, WATSON, PASHINSKI, MURT, SCHLOSSBERG, VEREB, TOOHL, BOBACK, METZGAR, BIZZARRO, O'NEILL, WARD, WHEELAND, D. COSTA, KINSEY, ROZZI, PHILLIPS-HILL, GIBBONS, ELLIS, IRVIN, MCGINNIS, A. HARRIS, TOEPEL, SAYLOR, ROSS, MARSICO, PAYNE, MILNE, DIGIROLAMO, BRADFORD, FARRY, DEASY, GOODMAN, GILLEN, GROVE, MAHONEY AND EVERETT, MARCH 18, 2016

INTRODUCED AS NONCONTROVERSIAL RESOLUTION UNDER RULE 35, MARCH 18, 2016

## A RESOLUTION

1 Recognizing the 75th anniversary of the Civil Air Patrol.

2 WHEREAS, Civil Air Patrol (CAP) is the official civilian  
3 auxiliary of the United States Air Force; and

4 WHEREAS, On December 1, 1941, CAP was created by an  
5 administrative order of the United States Director of Civilian  
6 Defense; and

7 WHEREAS, For 75 years, CAP has fulfilled its congressionally  
8 mandated missions of providing emergency services, aerospace  
9 education and cadet programs; and

10 WHEREAS, CAP's 75th anniversary theme is "Civil Air Patrol -  
11 Always Vigilant for America, 1941-2016"; and

12 WHEREAS, Anniversary activities and displays are planned

1 throughout 2016, including at the Mid-Atlantic Air Museum's  
2 World War II Weekend in Reading, Berks County, with observances  
3 culminating in a 75th anniversary gala at the Smithsonian  
4 Institution's Steven F. Udvar-Hazy Center on December 1, 2016;  
5 and

6 WHEREAS, CAP is a federally chartered nonprofit organization  
7 with 56,000 members nationwide; and

8 WHEREAS, CAP operates a fleet of 550 aircraft, one of the  
9 largest fleets of single-engine piston aircraft in the world,  
10 with pilots flying more than 98,500 hours annually; and

11 WHEREAS, CAP performs approximately 90% of continental United  
12 States inland search and rescue missions as tasked by the United  
13 States Air Force Rescue Coordination Center, which credits CAP  
14 with saving an average of 78 lives annually; and

15 WHEREAS, CAP's unpaid professionals also perform homeland  
16 security, disaster relief and drug interdiction missions at the  
17 request of Federal, State and local agencies; and

18 WHEREAS, In 2015, CAP contributed more than \$164 million in  
19 man-hours by serving the disaster relief and emergency services  
20 needs of communities, states and the Nation; and

21 WHEREAS, The members of CAP play a leading role in aerospace  
22 education and serve as mentors to 24,000 young people currently  
23 participating in the CAP cadet programs; and

24 WHEREAS, CAP continues a myriad of emergency services,  
25 disaster relief services and homeland security missions, each  
26 focused on the well-being and protection of American citizens;  
27 and

28 WHEREAS, In 2015, CAP maintained a fleet of more than 1,000  
29 emergency service vehicles for training and mission support; and

30 WHEREAS, CAP provides chaplains and character development

1 instructors who minister to youth and adult members and help  
2 comfort survivors and victims of disasters; and

3 WHEREAS, Since 2010, CAP has responded to both natural and  
4 man-made disasters, including the Deepwater Horizon oil spill on  
5 the Gulf Coast, Hurricane Sandy on the Eastern seaboard,  
6 flooding in the Midwest, tornadoes in the South and Southwest,  
7 wildfires in California, a mudslide in Washington State and a  
8 blizzard in South Dakota; and

9 WHEREAS, CAP aircrews have also provided tsunami warnings in  
10 Hawaii; and

11 WHEREAS, CAP's search and rescue efforts, aided by advances  
12 in technology, have resulted in nearly 400 lives saved  
13 nationwide in the past six years; and

14 WHEREAS, CAP's homeland security missions include aerial  
15 reconnaissance conducted near shipyards on the waterways of the  
16 United States, air defense exercises for United States Air Force  
17 fighters protecting this nation's airspace and assistance in  
18 training troops before they deploy overseas; and

19 WHEREAS, CAP received the Congressional Gold Medal in 2014 in  
20 honor of the heroic efforts of its World War II veterans; and

21 WHEREAS, CAP also participates in Wreaths Across America, an  
22 initiative to remember, honor and teach the sacrifices of United  
23 States military veterans; and

24 WHEREAS, In 2015, the Pennsylvania Wing (PA Wing) of the CAP  
25 was comprised of 1,053 adult members, 923 cadets, 152 aircrew  
26 personnel and 1,181 emergency responders, with 49 squadron  
27 locations Statewide, 11 single-engine aircraft and 36 vehicles;  
28 and

29 WHEREAS, In 2015, the PA Wing engaged in 15 search and rescue  
30 missions, with nearly 40 members participating in each mission;

1 and

2 WHEREAS, In 2015, the PA Wing provided more than 700 cadet  
3 orientation flights, with 2,538 hours flown; and

4 WHEREAS, Counterdrug flights by the PA Wing in 2015 uncovered  
5 illicit substances with a street value of \$4.5 million; and

6 WHEREAS, Wreaths Across America observations were held at  
7 eight locations in this Commonwealth in 2015, with approximately  
8 450 members in 21 local units participating; and

9 WHEREAS, In 2015, the value of the PA Wing's volunteer hours  
10 were estimated at almost \$5.5 million; therefore be it

11 RESOLVED, That the House of Representatives recognize the  
12 75th anniversary of the Civil Air Patrol; and be it further

13 RESOLVED, That residents of this Commonwealth be encouraged  
14 to learn more about CAP and its long history of service,  
15 sacrifice and love of country.