

THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF PENNSYLVANIA

# HOUSE RESOLUTION

No. 1091 Session of  
2015

INTRODUCED BY READSHAW, MAHER, COHEN, BARBIN, HARPER, MARSICO,  
DEAN, COX, WATSON, JAMES, PICKETT, DUSH, SONNEY, STAATS,  
BIZZARRO, LONGIETTI, BAKER, VEREB, ROZZI, MACKENZIE, BOBACK,  
DRISCOLL, TOEPEL, GREINER, O'BRIEN, SCHLOSSBERG, MATZIE,  
DIGIROLAMO, KINSEY, WARD, ENGLISH, KAUFFMAN, REGAN,  
CALTAGIRONE, FREEMAN, YOUNGBLOOD, THOMAS, MENTZER, MILLARD,  
NEILSON, A. HARRIS, D. COSTA, RAPP, MCNEILL, M. DALEY,  
EVERETT, DEASY, PAYNE, MCCARTER, MAHONEY, GOODMAN, GILLEN AND  
MILNE, OCTOBER 20, 2016

INTRODUCED AS NONCONTROVERSIAL RESOLUTION UNDER RULE 35,  
OCTOBER 20, 2016

## A RESOLUTION

1 Honoring the 225th birthday of the United States Constitutional  
2 Bill of Rights on December 15, 2016.

3 WHEREAS, The first 10 amendments to the Constitution of the  
4 United States are collectively known as the Bill of Rights; and

5 WHEREAS, The Bill of Rights became effective as amendments to  
6 the Constitution of the United States on December 15, 1791; and

7 WHEREAS, The Bill of Rights protects the rights of people and  
8 limits the powers of government; and

9 WHEREAS, The Bill of Rights reads as follows:

10 1. Congress shall make no law respecting an  
11 establishment of religion, or prohibiting the free exercise  
12 thereof; or abridging the freedom of speech, or of the press;  
13 or the right of the people peaceably to assemble, and to  
14 petition the Government for a redress of grievances.

1           2. A well regulated Militia, being necessary to the  
2 security of a free State, the right of the people to keep and  
3 bear Arms, shall not be infringed.

4           3. No Soldier shall, in time of peace be quartered in  
5 any house, without the consent of the Owner, nor in time of  
6 war, but in a manner to be prescribed by law.

7           4. The right of the people to be secure in their  
8 persons, houses, papers, and effects, against unreasonable  
9 searches and seizures, shall not be violated, and no Warrants  
10 shall issue, but upon probable cause, supported by Oath or  
11 affirmation, and particularly describing the place to be  
12 searched, and the persons or things to be seized.

13          5. No person shall be held to answer for a capital, or  
14 otherwise infamous crime, unless on a presentment or  
15 indictment of a Grand Jury, except in cases arising in the  
16 land or naval forces, or in the Militia, when in actual  
17 service in time of War or public danger; nor shall any person  
18 be subject for the same offense to be twice put in jeopardy  
19 of life or limb; nor shall be compelled in any criminal case  
20 to be a witness against himself, nor be deprived of life,  
21 liberty, or property, without due process of law; nor shall  
22 private property be taken for public use, without just  
23 compensation.

24          6. In all criminal prosecutions, the accused shall enjoy  
25 the right to a speedy and public trial, by an impartial jury  
26 of the State and district wherein the crime shall have been  
27 committed, which district shall have been previously  
28 ascertained by law, and to be informed of the nature and  
29 cause of the accusation; to be confronted with the witnesses  
30 against him; to have compulsory process for obtaining

witnesses in his favor, and to have the Assistance of Counsel  
for his defense.

7. In Suits at common law, where the value in  
controversy shall exceed twenty dollars, the right of trial  
by jury shall be preserved, and no fact tried by a jury,  
shall be otherwise re-examined in any Court of the United  
States, than according to the rules of the common law.

8. Excessive bail shall not be required, nor excessive  
fines imposed, nor cruel and unusual punishments inflicted.

9. The enumeration in the Constitution, of certain  
rights, shall not be construed to deny or disparage others  
retained by the people.

10. The powers not delegated to the United States by the  
Constitution, nor prohibited by it to the States, are  
reserved to the States respectively, or to the people;

and

WHEREAS, It is appropriate to honor the freedoms provided to  
the people by the Bill of Rights; therefore be it

RESOLVED, That the House of Representatives honor and  
recognize the 225th birthday of the United States Constitutional  
Bill of Rights on December 15, 2016.