
THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF PENNSYLVANIA

HOUSE RESOLUTION

No. 419 Session of
2017

INTRODUCED BY THOMAS, BULLOCK, TURZAI, DERMODY, YOUNGBLOOD,
J. HARRIS, WHITE, KINSEY, CEPHAS, DAWKINS, W. KELLER, LEWIS,
FITZGERALD, SOLOMON, McCLINTON AND KIRKLAND, JUNE 21, 2017

REFERRED TO COMMITTEE ON TRANSPORTATION, JUNE 21, 2017

A RESOLUTION

1 Memorializing the Congress of the United States to direct Amtrak
2 to comply with H.R. 4838 and immediately rename the 30th
3 Street Station as the "William H. Gray III 30th Street
4 Station."

5 WHEREAS, William H. Gray III represented Pennsylvania's
6 second congressional district in the United States House of
7 Representatives from 1979 until 1991; and

8 WHEREAS, Congressman William H. Gray III was and remains the
9 highest ranking member of the Pennsylvania delegation to serve
10 in Congress as Chairman of the House Budget Committee from 1985
11 until 1989 and House Majority Whip from 1989 until 1991; and

12 WHEREAS, Congressman Gray as Chairman of the House Budget
13 Committee and House Majority Whip was a strong advocate for
14 funding for infrastructure and public services; and

15 WHEREAS, Congressman Gray was a key voice in preventing the
16 elimination of funding for Amtrak and instrumental in securing
17 funding for the first major restoration of the 30th Street
18 Station; and

1 WHEREAS, Congressman Gray resigned from Congress in 1991 to
2 become the president and chief executive officer of the United
3 Negro College Fund; and

4 WHEREAS, William H. Gray III served the United Negro College
5 Fund through 2004, raising more than \$2.3 billion during his
6 tenure; and

7 WHEREAS, In June 2012, the Senate and House of
8 Representatives of the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania honored
9 William H Gray III for his dedicated service to the Commonwealth
10 of Pennsylvania, the City of Philadelphia and the residents of
11 the second Congressional district; and

12 WHEREAS, William H. Gray III died July 1, 2013, at 71 years
13 of age; and

14 WHEREAS, In the summer of 2014, the Congress of the United
15 States, in commemoration of Congressman Gray's lifelong service
16 and commitment to the City of Philadelphia, unanimously approved
17 H.R. 4838, renaming the Amtrak railroad station located in
18 Philadelphia, Pennsylvania, commonly known as "30th Street
19 Station" as the "William H. Gray III 30th Street Station"; and

20 WHEREAS, In August 2014, the President of the United States
21 signed H.R. 4838 into law; and

22 WHEREAS, Amtrak is a federally chartered corporation with the
23 Federal Government as majority stockholder and operates
24 intercity passenger rail services in 46 states and the District
25 of Columbia; and

26 WHEREAS, The Federal Government is the primary source of
27 public funding of Amtrak, while Amtrak also receives state
28 funding from 18 states under operating agreements or legislative
29 appropriations; and

30 WHEREAS, In the 2014-2015 fiscal year, the General Assembly

1 of the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania approved an appropriation of
2 \$14.5 million to Amtrak through the Department of Transportation
3 for operation of two routes, Harrisburg to Philadelphia and
4 Philadelphia to Pittsburgh; and

5 WHEREAS, The "William H. Gray III 30th Street Station" is the
6 third busiest Amtrak station, with an average of more than
7 11,000 passengers a day; and

8 WHEREAS, Despite the desire and direction of Congress and the
9 President of the United States under Public Law 113-158, enacted
10 three years ago, Amtrak has failed to re-name the 30th Street
11 Station; therefore be it

12 RESOLVED, That the House of Representatives of the
13 Commonwealth of Pennsylvania memorialize the Congress of the
14 United States to direct Amtrak to comply with H.R. 4838 and
15 immediately rename the 30th Street Station as the "William H.
16 Gray III 30th Street Station"; and be it further

17 RESOLVED, That a copy of this resolution be transmitted to
18 Amtrak Corporate Headquarters, 60 Massachusetts Avenue NE,
19 Washington DC 20002.