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THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF PENNSYLVANIA

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SENATE RESOLUTION

No. 291 Session of  
2020

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INTRODUCED BY MASTRIANO, BROOKS, K. WARD, ARGALL, AUMENT, BAKER,  
BARTOLOTTA, BREWSTER, BROWNE, DINNIMAN, FONTANA, HUTCHINSON,  
IOVINO, KILLION, LANGERHOLC, MARTIN, PHILLIPS-HILL, PITTMAN,  
SABATINA, SANTARSIERO, SCAVELLO, TARTAGLIONE AND J. WARD,  
FEBRUARY 3, 2020

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REFERRED TO VETERANS AFFAIRS AND EMERGENCY PREPAREDNESS,  
FEBRUARY 3, 2020

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A RESOLUTION

1 Commemorating Pennsylvania's contribution to Operation Desert  
2 Shield and Operation Desert Storm.

3 WHEREAS, On August 2, 1990, the Iraqi Army, under orders of  
4 Saddam Hussein, invaded and brutally occupied Kuwait; and

5 WHEREAS, The Iraqi attack was swift, with Baghdad ordering  
6 the preponderance of its forces into Kuwait, which threatened  
7 Saudi Arabia; and

8 WHEREAS, President George Herbert Walker Bush responded to  
9 this invasion with a deployment of troops to the region, backed  
10 by 256,000 Allied and Coalition military personnel; and

11 WHEREAS, The first portion of the deployment was called  
12 Operation Desert Shield, which focused on the defense of Saudi  
13 Arabia and the buildup of forces in the theater; and

14 WHEREAS, Operation Desert Storm encompassed offensive  
15 operations to liberate Kuwait; and

16 WHEREAS, Operation Desert Storm began on January 16, 1991,

1 with a concerted air campaign to attrite the Iraqi forces  
2 occupying Kuwait; and

3 WHEREAS, The Coalition ground campaign began on February 23,  
4 1991, with the movement of the 2nd Armored Cavalry Regiment into  
5 southeastern Iraq to lead the main attack against Saddam  
6 Hussein's elite Guards Corps; and

7 WHEREAS, The general ground offensive kicked off in earnest  
8 on February 24, 1991, and resulted in the complete liberation of  
9 Kuwait by February 28, 1991; and

10 WHEREAS, Operation Desert Storm was a stunning display of  
11 near perfection in conducting joint and combined military  
12 operations based upon years of study to avoid the errors made by  
13 leadership during the Vietnam War; and

14 WHEREAS, More importantly, Operation Desert Storm was the  
15 single most important point of unification for the American  
16 people since the Vietnam War; and

17 WHEREAS, The residents of this Commonwealth and our nation  
18 were united in their support of military personnel, including a  
19 spontaneous movement to prayer for protection of our deployed  
20 troops, as well as an outpouring of generosity with care  
21 packages; and

22 WHEREAS, Across Pennsylvania, this unique time for our nation  
23 was observed with yellow ribbons decorating trees as a reminder  
24 to pray for the safety of our men and women serving in Operation  
25 Desert Storm; and

26 WHEREAS, Pennsylvania's cost to liberate Kuwait was high, as  
27 thousands of its sons and daughters served in Operation Desert  
28 Storm; and

29 WHEREAS, Pennsylvania suffered the highest loss of life in a  
30 single attack when an Iraqi scud missile exploded at Dhahran,

1 Saudi Arabia, killing 13 and wounding 43 members of the  
2 Pennsylvania-based 14th Quartermaster Detachment; and

3 WHEREAS, May we never forget those who served during  
4 Operation Desert Storm; and

5 WHEREAS, Let us pause and remember those from Pennsylvania  
6 who paid the last full measure of devotion in the cause of  
7 freedom; therefore be it

8 RESOLVED, That the Senate commemorate Pennsylvania's  
9 contribution to Operation Desert Shield and Operation Desert  
10 Storm.