

TO: All members of the General Assembly

FROM: Representative Harry Readshaw, Member, 36th Legislative District

DATE: January 6, 2011

RE: INTRODUCTION OF RESOLUTION – Abraham Lincoln’s Birthday

Shortly I will be introducing a resolution honoring the 202nd birthday of the sixteenth president of the United States, Abraham Lincoln, who was born on February 12, 1809.

While Lincoln was born in a single room log cabin in Kentucky, later moved to Indiana, then on to Illinois, Pennsylvania also has a special affinity for him beyond his preservation of the Union.

The Commonwealth and its leaders were among the staunchest in the fight to hold the nation together. Tens of thousands of its young men march off to the Civil War and the active support of Pennsylvania officials were essential to the long, costly struggle. Gov. Andrew Curtin was foremost among them; regarded as one of Lincoln's most valuable allies outside of Washington.

Then, of course, there was Gettysburg, where the military fortunes of the Confederacy were turned, largely by the bravery and bloodshed of thousands of Pennsylvania troops and officers.

The value of that moral and physical support was evidenced by the inclusion of Pennsylvania in the route for the martyred president's funeral train, including a stop here in Harrisburg to lie in state in the House of Representatives chamber of the old Capitol Building.

I ask for your support of this resolution in reaffirmation of Pennsylvania's bond to the greatest American president since George Washington. Please call my office at 783-0411 (Democratic Caucus Ext. 6374) or e-mail bmowery@pahouse.net to cosponsor this legislation.

Thank you,