

TO: All Members of the General Assembly
FROM: Representative Harry Readshaw, Member, 36th Legislative District
DATE: January 13, 2012
RE: INTRODUCTION OF RESOLUTION – Abraham Lincoln's Birthday

Next week when we return to session, I will be introducing a resolution honoring the 201st birthday of the sixteenth president of the United States, Abraham Lincoln, who was born on February 14, 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. If you wish to cosponsor this Resolution, please contact Margaret Tricarico at 717-772-5568, Democratic Extension 6168, or by email at mtricarico@pahouse.net.

Thank you.