

A RESOLUTION

1 Commemorating the American lives that were lost in the tragic
2 events of September 11, 2001, recognizing the significance of
3 these events in American history and encouraging this
4 Commonwealth's school districts to incorporate these events
5 into their curriculum.

6 WHEREAS, On September 11, 2001, the United States of America
7 suffered a serious terrorist attack within its domestic
8 territory which led to the tragic loss of 2,973 lives; and

9 WHEREAS, This terrorist attack marked a pivotal day in our
10 nation's history which forever affected America's geopolitical
11 role in the world, leading to a presidential declaration of a
12 new "War on Terror"; and

13 WHEREAS, In the years since this declaration, thousands of
14 Americans have valiantly fought in wars in Iraq, Afghanistan and
15 other lands around the world with more than 6,500 losing their
16 lives in this noble fight for freedom in the War on Terror, and
17 Pennsylvania citizens are among these brave men and women; and

18 WHEREAS, Conflicts continue around the globe as the United
19 States and its allies pursue their mission to rid the world of

1 those who would take the lives of innocent people as the 19
2 cowardly terrorists did on American soil on September 11, 2001;
3 and

4 WHEREAS, This Commonwealth and many of its residents were
5 impacted by the events of September 11, 2001, as passenger
6 Flight 93 crashed into a field in Shanksville, Somerset County,
7 after two hijacked planes had flown into the Twin Towers in New
8 York City and a third plane had struck the Pentagon in Virginia,
9 together resulting in 58 Pennsylvania citizens losing their
10 lives and 42 innocent Pennsylvania children losing a parent; and

11 WHEREAS, Given the enormous historical significance of these
12 events and the considerable impact they have had upon America's
13 political and cultural life, this Commonwealth's school
14 districts should incorporate these events into their government,
15 social studies and history curriculums at the elementary, middle
16 school and high school levels; and

17 WHEREAS, In the years following September 11, 2001, a plan
18 has unfolded to establish the September 11th National Memorial
19 Trail, which is a 1,100-mile hiking, biking and driving trail
20 connecting Virginia to the Flight 93 National Memorial site in
21 Somerset County, with a second leg extending from the Pentagon
22 in Virginia to the World Trade Center Ground Zero site in New
23 York City, and a third and final leg stretching between the
24 Flight 93 National Memorial site in Shanksville to the World
25 Trade Center Ground Zero site in New York City; and

26 WHEREAS, The second leg of the trail includes the Garden of
27 Reflection, which is situated in Memorial Park amid the natural
28 beauty and historic farmland in Lower Makefield Township, Bucks
29 County, and is the Commonwealth's official memorial dedicated to
30 remembering the tragic events of September 11, 2001; and

1 WHEREAS, Consistent with the enlightened intentions of these
2 commemorative efforts, this Commonwealth's policymakers must
3 ensure that present and future generations of students are
4 taught the importance and gravity of the events that occurred on
5 this most significant historical date in American history and of
6 this country's enduring victorious spirit and commitment to
7 fighting terrorism and spreading the cause of freedom around the
8 world; therefore be it

9 RESOLVED, That the House of Representatives commemorate the
10 American lives lost in the tragic events that occurred on
11 September 11, 2001, and encourage this Commonwealth's school
12 districts to incorporate teaching about this historic date into
13 its government, history and social studies curriculums at the
14 elementary, middle school and high school levels.