



House of Representatives
COMMONWEALTH OF PENNSYLVANIA
HARRISBURG

MEMORANDUM

TO: All House Members

FROM: Representative J. P. Miranda

DATE: January 9, 2014

RE: Condolence Resolution Honoring the Life and Service of
"Reverend" Henry T. Wells

In the near future, I will be introducing a condolence resolution honoring the life and service of "Reverend" Henry T. Wells, who departed this life on September 11, 2013, at the age of 83.

A native of Ocala, Florida, Mr. Wells moved to Philadelphia, PA in 1975. Possessing an entrepreneurial spirit, Mr. Wells opened *Tommy's Poor Man's Friend* furniture store which he operated from 1976-1979. While life in Philadelphia presented its challenges, through prayer, family support, and substance abuse treatment, Mr. Wells managed to overcome them and worked tirelessly for the rest of his life helping others who battled substance abuse, disease, and homelessness. After opening the doors of his home to many homeless persons in recovery, his reputation for success became widespread and in 1983, Mr. Wells officially founded *One Day At A Time Recovery, Inc.* – a residential peer counseling and substance abuse recovery support program.

Mr. Wells' advocacy for the homeless spans decades. In 1993, Mr. Wells began ministering to those homeless persons living in "Crate City" – a community of homeless individuals and families living in cardboard boxes in the corridors of Philadelphia's subways. He was instrumental in helping to eliminate Crate City and find housing for the people living there.

Today, *One Day At A Time Recovery, Inc.* offers drug and alcohol services to individuals seeking shelter and support in their recovery efforts. While residing in one of the many recovery houses, individuals are eligible to receive a menu of services which can include: case management, educational classes and workshops, HIV rapid testing, HIV education and prevention, and food bank services. "Reverend" Henry T. Wells' creation will continue helping many vulnerable and underserved populations. Please join me in recognizing and honoring his memory and his legacy. Thank you.