

THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF PENNSYLVANIA

# SENATE RESOLUTION

No. 204 Session of  
2002

INTRODUCED BY KUKOVICH, BELL, BODACK, BOSCOLA, EARLL, HUGHES,  
KITCHEN, O'PAKE, ORIE, SCHWARTZ, STACK, TARTAGLIONE,  
C. WILLIAMS AND M. WHITE, APRIL 9, 2002

INTRODUCED AND ADOPTED, APRIL 9, 2002

## A RESOLUTION

1 Honoring and recognizing Arline Jolles Lotman, Esquire, on the  
2 occasion of the 30th anniversary of her appointment as the  
3 first Executive Director of the Pennsylvania Commission on  
4 the Status of Women.

5 WHEREAS, Each year the Commonwealth acknowledges and honors  
6 "Women's History Month"; and

7 WHEREAS, The Pennsylvania Commission on the Status of Women  
8 was established in 1972 by Executive Order of the Honorable  
9 Milton J. Shapp, Governor, and was charged with the  
10 responsibility of developing and implementing programs to make  
11 sure that all women in Pennsylvania are able to participate  
12 equally in the economic, educational, judicial and governmental  
13 life of the Commonwealth; and

14 WHEREAS, Arline Jolles Lotman was appointed as the first  
15 Executive Director of the commission by the Governor to secure  
16 women's legal rights in Pennsylvania pursuant to section 28 of  
17 Article I of the Constitution of Pennsylvania which states:

18 Equality of rights under the law shall not be denied or

1           abridged in the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania because of  
2           the sex of the individual;  
3   and

4       WHEREAS, Arline Jolles Lotman secured the rights of women in  
5   Pennsylvania by her leadership; and

6       WHEREAS, Among her many accomplishments are the following:

7           (1)   Equal access to credit in Pennsylvania, and passage  
8           of new banking regulations that give women the right to  
9           obtain a mortgage in their own name based on their own  
10          creditworthiness. This change gained national recognition.

11          (2)   The first investigation of health care  
12          discrimination against women in the nation. This change is  
13          ongoing and has vastly improved health care to women.

14          (3)   The first investigation of health care  
15          discrimination against minority women in the nation.

16          (4)   The landmark end to newspapers' help wanted ads  
17          which segregated job opportunities by gender.

18          (5)   Promulgation of a directive by the Department of  
19          Education ending sex discrimination in the public schools of  
20          Pennsylvania in classes, activities, sports, housing and  
21          staffing.

22          (6)   Passage of the Equal Rights Day Proclamation in  
23          Pennsylvania.

24          (7)   Ratification by the General Assembly of the proposed  
25          Equal Rights Amendment to the Constitution of the United  
26          States;

27   and

28       WHEREAS, Arline Jolles Lotman, throughout her life as wife,  
29   mother, widowed mother, lawyer, teacher, community activist,  
30   political participant and public policy author, has provided an

1 ongoing inspiration and model for the women of this  
2 Commonwealth; and

3 WHEREAS, In her constant fight for civil rights for all  
4 people she has worked for and made all Pennsylvanians aware of  
5 the need for women to take their place as full and equal  
6 participants in this Commonwealth; and

7 WHEREAS, Through her skillful advocacy for legislation  
8 prohibiting sex discrimination in employment, in public  
9 accommodations, in the educational system of the Commonwealth,  
10 as the Executive Director and as a distinguished leader in the  
11 Philadelphia and Pennsylvania legal community, she has been an  
12 agent for change in our policies and laws; therefore be it

13 RESOLVED, That the Senate express its deep appreciation to  
14 Arline Jolles Lotman for her service to the Commonwealth as the  
15 first Executive Director of the Pennsylvania Commission on the  
16 Status of Women, for her efforts on behalf of all people in this  
17 Commonwealth, for her ongoing commitment to the legal rights of  
18 women and for her unique and singular historic contributions to  
19 building a better society.