

---

THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF PENNSYLVANIA

---

HOUSE RESOLUTION

No. 825 Session of  
2006

---

INTRODUCED BY BELFANTI, SURRA, EACHUS, DeWEESE, VEON, BLACKWELL, BUXTON, CASORIO, FREEMAN, GERGELY, GOODMAN, W. KELLER, McGEEHAN, RAMALEY, BEBKO-JONES, BEYER, CALTAGIRONE, CAPPELLI, COHEN, CORRIGAN, CRAHALLA, CREIGHTON, CRUZ, DALEY, DeLUCA, FORCIER, GABIG, GANNON, GEORGE, GRUCELA, HARHAI, HASAY, HERSHEY, JAMES, JOSEPHS, KILLION, LEACH, LEDERER, MANN, MCGILL, McILHATTAN, MELIO, MILLARD, MYERS, PALLONE, PARKER, PHILLIPS, PISTELLA, RAYMOND, READSHAW, ROBERTS, ROHRER, ROONEY, SAINATO, SATHER, SCAVELLO, SHANER, SHAPIRO, SIPTROTH, STABACK, TIGUE, VITALI, WALKO, WOJNAROSKI, YOUNGBLOOD AND YUDICHAK, JUNE 30, 2006

---

INTRODUCED AS NONCONTROVERSIAL RESOLUTION UNDER RULE 35,  
JUNE 30, 2006

---

A RESOLUTION

1 Commemorating the life of the late Martin "Marty" Berger and  
2 recognizing his contributions and achievements for working  
3 residents and retired residents in Pennsylvania and  
4 throughout the country.

5 WHEREAS, Martin Berger passed away on June 18, 2006, from  
6 cancer at the age of 77; and

7 WHEREAS, Mr. Berger dedicated his life to advocating on  
8 behalf of workers, organized labor and retirees; and

9 WHEREAS, Mr. Berger first became active in politics at the  
10 age of 15, living in New York City; and

11 WHEREAS, Throughout his work and travels on behalf of the  
12 labor movement, Mr. Berger helped thousands of laborers join  
13 unions, assisting in the development and growth of unions and  
14 improving workers' living standards and respect on the job; and

1       WHEREAS, Mr. Berger spent his career helping to build the  
2 International Ladies Garment Workers Union (ILGWU), which is now  
3 known as UNITE HERE, and the AFL-CIO has referred to it as one  
4 of the strongest and most progressive unions in the United  
5 States; and

6       WHEREAS, Mr. Berger opened the First Garment Workers Justice  
7 Center in New York; and

8       WHEREAS, Mr. Berger most recently served this organization as  
9 the retiree coordinator for the Pennsylvania Chapter of UNITE  
10 HERE; and

11       WHEREAS, Mr. Berger served as vice-president of the  
12 Pennsylvania AFL-CIO; and

13       WHEREAS, At the time of his death Mr. Berger held the  
14 position of President of the Pennsylvania Alliance for Retired  
15 Americans (PARA), the Pennsylvania affiliate of a national  
16 organization that serves over three million seniors and  
17 retirees; and

18       WHEREAS, Among many notable achievements while heading PARA,  
19 Mr. Berger garnered significant grassroots support for the  
20 expansion of programs for Pennsylvania seniors, including  
21 improved eligibility requirements for the PACE and PACENET  
22 programs; and

23       WHEREAS, In addition to advocating on behalf of retirees, Mr.  
24 Berger encouraged all seniors in Pennsylvania to use their  
25 golden years to become more active and participate in  
26 government; therefore be it

27       RESOLVED, That the House of Representatives commemorate the  
28 life of the late Martin "Marty" Berger and recognize his  
29 contributions and achievements for working residents and retired  
30 residents in Pennsylvania and throughout the country and

1 remember Martin "Marty" Berger as a man whose tireless efforts  
2 brought about a better life for millions of people; and be it  
3 further

4       RESOLVED, That the House of Representatives extend  
5 condolences to the family and friends of Martin Berger; and be  
6 it further

7       RESOLVED, That a copy of this resolution be transmitted to  
8 his wife, Helen Berger, at 141 Cedarbrook Road, Ardmore PA  
9 19003.