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THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF PENNSYLVANIA

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**HOUSE BILL**

**No. 771**      Session of  
2007

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INTRODUCED BY HERSHEY, CALTAGIRONE, DENLINGER, FABRIZIO, FLECK,  
GEIST, GINGRICH, HUTCHINSON, JOSEPHS, PHILLIPS, RAPP,  
SANTONI, STABACK, VULAKOVICH AND YOUNGBLOOD, MARCH 19, 2007

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REFERRED TO COMMITTEE ON STATE GOVERNMENT, MARCH 19, 2007

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AN ACT

1    Selecting, designating and adopting the Hazleton soil series as  
2        the official soil of the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania.

3        WHEREAS, A growing number of states, having significant  
4    concerns for valuable soil resources, have each chosen a unique  
5    soil series as their official state soil; and

6        WHEREAS, Pennsylvania has a significant concern for its own  
7    soil resources and takes pride in its natural resources; and

8        WHEREAS, Soils serve as the foundation for Pennsylvania's  
9    forests, agriculture, pasture lands, our unique wildlife  
10   habitats, our beautiful landscapes and our homes and  
11   communities; and

12        WHEREAS, The Hazleton soils are named for soils located near  
13   the City of Hazleton, Luzerne County, Pennsylvania, and account  
14   for over one and a half million acres of soils throughout the  
15   State; and

16        WHEREAS, The Hazleton soils occur in half the counties in  
17   Pennsylvania and are used for woodlands, croplands and pasture

1 lands; and

2 WHEREAS, The Hazleton soils support a natural ecosystem,  
3 which is home to the State bird, tree, animal and flower; and

4 WHEREAS, Designating the Hazleton soil series as the State  
5 soil would recognize the importance of this soil to the natural  
6 history and economy of Penn's Woods; therefore

7 The General Assembly of the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania  
8 hereby enacts as follows:

9 Section 1. Official State soil.

10 The Hazleton soil series is hereby selected, designated and  
11 adopted as the official soil of the Commonwealth of  
12 Pennsylvania.

13 Section 2. Effective date.

14 This act shall take effect immediately.