

THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF PENNSYLVANIA

HOUSE RESOLUTION

No. 23

Session of
2007

INTRODUCED BY CURRY, BELFANTI, BOYD, COHEN, DALEY, EACHUS, FABRIZIO, FREEMAN, GEORGE, GILLESPIE, GRUCELA, JAMES, KOTIK, MANN, PALLONE, McGEEHAN, MUNDY, PETRONE, RAMALEY, SAINATO, WOJNAROSKI, READSHAW, SAMUELSON, SANTONI, WANSACZ, WALKO, WATSON, YOUNGBLOOD, ARGALL, BISHOP, CAPPELLI, CLYMER, DeLUCA, D. EVANS, FRANKEL, GABIG, GEIST, GODSHALL, GRELL, HARPER, HESS, KULA, MAJOR, MANTZ, MELIO, MILLARD, MUSTIO, PHILLIPS, QUIGLEY, REED, RAPP, ROHRER, SONNEY, SCAVELLO, STERN, SWANGER, McILVAINE SMITH, BARRAR, BIANCUCCI, CALTAGIRONE, CAUSER, CREIGHTON, DENLINGER, FAIRCHILD, GALLOWAY, GIBBONS, GOODMAN, HARHART, HENNESSEY, HERSHEY, HUTCHINSON, LONGIETTI, MARKOSEK, METCALFE, MOYER, NAILOR, PAYNE, M. O'BRIEN, REICHLEY, ROEBUCK, ROSS, STABACK, SCHRODER, R. STEVENSON, VULAKOVICH, GINGRICH, BASTIAN AND GERGELY, JANUARY 29, 2007

INTRODUCED AS NONCONTROVERSIAL RESOLUTION UNDER RULE 35,
JANUARY 29, 2007

A RESOLUTION

1 Observing the 275th anniversary of the birth of George
2 Washington and honoring the contribution he made to this
3 country as commander of the American army in the
4 Revolutionary War, as the presiding officer of the
5 Constitutional Convention and as the first president of the
6 United States.

7 WHEREAS, George Washington was born on February 22, 1732, at
8 Bridges Creek, Westmoreland County, Virginia, son of Mary and
9 Augustine Washington; and

10 WHEREAS, George Washington, who was interested in surveying
11 and attracted by government service, became a member of the
12 Virginia militia and was at the time of French expansion into
13 the Ohio Valley a captain of the Virginia militia; and

1 WHEREAS, Washington's increasing interest in the affairs of
2 the colony led him to seek a seat in the House of Burgesses,
3 and, as tension with England increased, years later he became a
4 delegate to the First Continental Congress; and

5 WHEREAS, The Second Continental Congress, assembled in
6 Philadelphia in May 1775 and presided over by John Hancock,
7 elected George Washington to become the first Commander of the
8 Continental Army; and

9 WHEREAS, George Washington assumed control of the Continental
10 Army and led the ill-trained but courageous army into a six-year
11 war against a much more powerful and experienced British
12 opposition; and

13 WHEREAS, Washington held this army of 11,000 troops together
14 during the winter at Valley Forge, thereby salvaging the
15 American cause; and

16 WHEREAS, Washington coordinated the final assault in
17 cooperation with the French on the British forces in America,
18 culminating in the victory at Yorktown; and

19 WHEREAS, The affairs of the Confederation government remained
20 unsettled and with prospects for cooperation among the states
21 dimming, Washington became a supporter of a convention to make
22 recommended changes to the Articles of Confederation; and

23 WHEREAS, Elected as a delegate in 1787 to the Constitutional
24 Convention in Philadelphia, he served as the presiding officer
25 of the convention; and

26 WHEREAS, Following ratification of the new Constitution, in
27 the first national election, Washington was elected president of
28 the United States by an unanimous vote of the Electoral College;
29 and

30 WHEREAS, George Washington spent his first term establishing

1 the administrative features of the executive branch, which
2 includes the President's cabinet and the department agencies of
3 the Federal government; and

4 WHEREAS, The new country quickly adopted his procedures,
5 ideas and knowledge for the running of a new government, many of
6 which are still followed today, shown through the style and
7 nature of our government's policies affecting our countrymen and
8 other nations; and

9 WHEREAS, Washington was above mere partisanship and wisely
10 once said, "Let me warn you in the most solemn manner against
11 the baneful effects of the spirit of party generally...It serves
12 always to distract the public counsels and enfeeble the public
13 administration. It agitates the community with ill-founded
14 jealousies and false alarms; kindles the animosity of one part
15 against the other"; and

16 WHEREAS, Washington led the young nation of diverse people
17 and interests, urging all Americans, "to raise a standard to
18 which the wise and honest can repair"; and

19 WHEREAS, The 275th anniversary of the birth of George
20 Washington celebrates the life of this public servant by
21 honoring a man whose character shaped a government of liberty
22 and justice for all; therefore be it

23 RESOLVED, That the House of Representatives observe the 275th
24 anniversary of the birth of George Washington and encourage
25 Pennsylvanians to learn more about the virtues and courage of
26 the men and women who have played an instrumental role in the
27 foundation of our country.