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THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF PENNSYLVANIA

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HOUSE RESOLUTION

No. 175 Session of  
2007

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INTRODUCED BY GERGELY, ARGALL, BARRAR, BENNINGHOFF, BENNINGTON, BEYER, BIANCUCCI, CALTAGIRONE, CAPPELLI, COHEN, COSTA, CREIGHTON, DeWEESE, DIGIROLAMO, DONATUCCI, EVERETT, FABRIZIO, FAIRCHILD, FRANKEL, GABIG, GALLOWAY, GEIST, GIBBONS, GILLESPIE, GINGRICH, GOODMAN, GRUCELA, HARHAI, HARHART, HENNESSEY, HERSHEY, HESS, HUTCHINSON, JAMES, KIRKLAND, KORTZ, KOTIK, KULA, LEVDANSKY, MAHONEY, MANTZ, MARSHALL, MILLARD, MURT, MYERS, PALLONE, PARKER, PAYNE, PETRARCA, PETRONE, PHILLIPS, RAMALEY, READSHAW, ROHRER, ROSS, SAINATO, SANTONI, SAYLOR, SOLOBAY, SONNEY, STABACK, R. STEVENSON, SURRA, THOMAS, VEREB, VULAKOVICH, WALKO, WANSACZ, J. WHITE, WOJNAROSKI AND YOUNGBLOOD, MARCH 29, 2007

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

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A RESOLUTION

1 Congratulating the Rivers of Steel National Heritage Area and  
2 the Steel Industry Heritage Corporation.

3 WHEREAS, From 1875 to 1980, southwestern Pennsylvania was the  
4 steelmaking capital of the world, producing steel for some of  
5 America's iconic landmarks, such as the Brooklyn Bridge and the  
6 Empire State Building; and

7 WHEREAS, During World Wars I and II, western Pennsylvania's  
8 steelworkers carried a nation's defense on their backs,  
9 producing more steel, armor and armaments in a single year than  
10 entire nations; and

11 WHEREAS, While many of the region's legendary mill sites have  
12 been dismantled and it has been decades since the mills belched

1 fire and smoke over Pittsburgh's skyline, the enormity of the  
2 region's steelmaking contributions and its historical  
3 significance to the nation demand that its story be told and its  
4 sites be preserved; and

5 WHEREAS, The Rivers of Steel National Heritage Area, created  
6 by the Congress of the United States in 1996, is committed to  
7 preserving, interpreting and managing the historic, cultural and  
8 natural resources relating to steelmaking and its industries;  
9 and

10 WHEREAS, The Rivers of Steel National Heritage Area  
11 encompasses 3,000 square miles in the seven counties of  
12 Allegheny, Armstrong, Beaver, Westmoreland, Greene, Fayette and  
13 Washington and is building on this remarkable transition from  
14 heavy industry to high technology and diversified services; and

15 WHEREAS, The Rivers of Steel National Heritage Area is  
16 further bolstering the new regional economy by promoting tourism  
17 and economic development based on this region's historic  
18 industrial saga; and

19 WHEREAS, The Rivers of Steel National Heritage Area's mission  
20 includes historic preservation, cultural conservation,  
21 education, recreation and resource development; and

22 WHEREAS, Legislation has been introduced in the 1st Session  
23 of the 110th Congress to create the Steel Industry National  
24 Historic Site within Allegheny County; and

25 WHEREAS, The proposed historic site would be located on 38  
26 acres surrounding the United States Steel Homestead Works, the  
27 Carrie Furnaces complex, which is the last of the giant blast  
28 furnaces from the Homestead Works, the Pump House, site of the  
29 bloody 1892 Homestead Steel Strike, and the Hot Metal Bridge;  
30 and

1       WHEREAS, The purpose of this designation is to ensure the  
2 preservation, interpretation, visitor enjoyment and maintenance  
3 of these nationally significant landmarks; therefore be it

4       RESOLVED, That the House of Representatives congratulate the  
5 Rivers of Steel National Heritage Area and the Steel Industry  
6 Heritage Corporation, its board members and staff on ten years  
7 of outstanding contributions to southwestern Pennsylvania in  
8 bringing to life this region's role as the steelmaking capital  
9 of the world; and be it further

10       RESOLVED, That copies of this resolution be transmitted to  
11 the offices of the Steel Industry Heritage Corporation, The Bost  
12 Building, 623 East 8th Avenue, Homestead PA 15120.