THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF PENNSYLVANIA

HOUSE RESOLUTION

No. 275

Session of 2007

INTRODUCED BY MELIO, BELFANTI, BEYER, BISHOP, BROOKS, CALTAGIRONE, CLYMER, COHEN, CREIGHTON, DALEY, DeWEESE, DIGIROLAMO, DONATUCCI, EVERETT, FAIRCHILD, FLECK, GABIG, GALLOWAY, GEIST, GEORGE, GINGRICH, GRUCELA, HARHART, HENNESSEY, HERSHEY, HESS, JAMES, W. KELLER, KIRKLAND, KULA, MAHONEY, MAJOR, MANN, MANTZ, MARSICO, MCILHATTAN, MILLARD, R. MILLER, MOYER, MURT, NAILOR, M. O'BRIEN, PALLONE, PAYNE, PHILLIPS, PICKETT, RAMALEY, RAPP, READSHAW, ROSS, RUBLEY, SAINATO, SANTONI, SAYLOR, SCAVELLO, SIPTROTH, SOLOBAY, SONNEY, STABACK, R. STEVENSON, SURRA, R. TAYLOR, VULAKOVICH, J. WHITE, WOJNAROSKI, YUDICHAK, PASHINSKI, FREEMAN, SEIP, TANGRETTI, GOODMAN AND MUNDY, MAY 18, 2007

INTRODUCED AS NONCONTROVERSIAL RESOLUTION UNDER RULE 35, MAY 18, 2007

A RESOLUTION

- 1 Designating the month of May 2007 as "Poppy Month" in
- 2 Pennsylvania.
- 3 WHEREAS, Noticed as early as the Napoleonic Wars, red poppies
- 4 grew on the graves of dead soldiers in the fields of northern
- 5 Europe; and
- 6 WHEREAS, Throughout history, red poppies have sprouted in
- 7 battlefields and on soldiers' graves after a major war; and
- 8 WHEREAS, During World War I poppies bloomed in bomb craters
- 9 on the battlefield at Ypres, Belgium; and
- 10 WHEREAS, In 1915 Colonel John McCrea immortalized those
- 11 poppies in a poem which begins "In Flanders Fields the poppies
- 12 blow"; and

- 1 WHEREAS, Inspired by McCrea's poem, American Moina Michael
- 2 wore a red poppy to honor the war dead and began to sell poppies
- 3 to raise money for disabled veterans; and
- 4 WHEREAS, The tradition of selling paper poppies spread in
- 5 North America, and poppies have been sold in many countries to
- 6 benefit veterans organizations; and
- WHEREAS, By wearing a red poppy, we salute the memory of
- 8 those who sacrificed their health, their strength and their
- 9 lives so that we might live in a free country; and
- 10 WHEREAS, Red poppies carry further significance during
- 11 remembrance days; and
- 12 WHEREAS, The red petals symbolize the vast outpouring of
- 13 blood; and
- 14 WHEREAS, The green and black center symbolizes the mud and
- 15 desolation of all battlefields; and
- 16 WHEREAS, The green of the stem symbolizes the forests,
- 17 meadows and fields where generations of Americans have perished
- 18 in defense of our freedom; and
- 19 WHEREAS, The stem symbolizes the courage and determination of
- 20 fallen soldiers; and
- 21 WHEREAS, The assembled paper poppy symbolizes remembrance and
- 22 resurrection; therefore be it
- 23 RESOLVED, That the House of Representatives designate the
- 24 month of May 2007 as "Poppy Month" in Pennsylvania.