

THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF PENNSYLVANIA

HOUSE RESOLUTION

No. 277 Session of  
2007

INTRODUCED BY BENNINGHOFF, BEYER, ADOLPH, BAKER, BARRAR, BELFANTI, BIANCUCCI, BISHOP, BROOKS, BUXTON, CALTAGIRONE, CLYMER, COSTA, COX, CREIGHTON, DALEY, DIGIROLAMO, J. EVANS, EVERETT, FABRIZIO, FAIRCHILD, FLECK, FRANKEL, FREEMAN, GABIG, GALLOWAY, GEIST, GEORGE, GIBBONS, GINGRICH, GODSHALL, GOODMAN, HARHART, HARRIS, HENNESSEY, HERSHEY, HUTCHINSON, JAMES, KAUFFMAN, M. KELLER, KILLION, KORTZ, KOTIK, KULA, MAJOR, MANN, MANTZ, MARKOSEK, MARSICO, MCGEEHAN, MCILHATTAN, MELIO, METCALFE, MILLARD, R. MILLER, MILNE, MOUL, MOYER, MUNDY, MURT, MUSTIO, NAILOR, O'NEILL, PALLONE, PETRONE, PHILLIPS, PICKETT, QUIGLEY, RAMALEY, RAPP, RAYMOND, READSHAW, REED, REICHLLEY, ROEBUCK, ROHRER, ROSS, SAINATO, SANTONI, SCAVELLO, SCHRODER, SHAPIRO, SOLOBAY, SONNEY, STEIL, R. STEVENSON, SWANGER, TANGRETTI, THOMAS, TRUE, VEREB, VULAKOVICH, WATSON, WHEATLEY, J. WHITE, WOJNAROSKI AND YOUNGBLOOD, MAY 18, 2007

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

A RESOLUTION

1 Congratulating the United States Air Force on its 60th  
2 anniversary.

3 WHEREAS, The United States Air Force is observing the  
4 momentous occasion of the 60th anniversary of its service; and

5 WHEREAS, From the beginning, United States airmen have played  
6 a critical role in the development of the Army Air Corps and the  
7 Air Force; and

8 WHEREAS, After World War II, with the signing of the National  
9 Security Act of 1947, independence for the Air Force was granted  
10 through establishment of the Department of the Air Force and the

1 Office of the Secretary of Defense with limited authority over  
2 the services; and

3 WHEREAS, On September 18, 1947, the Air Force became a  
4 separate service; and

5 WHEREAS, On October 14, 1947, the new Air Force was propelled  
6 into the supersonic era by breaking the speed of sound with its  
7 Bell XS-1; and

8 WHEREAS, The United States Air Force showed its air  
9 capabilities and independence by breaking the Soviet Union's  
10 blockade of Berlin in 1948; and

11 WHEREAS, The United States Air Force provided the cornerstone  
12 of the capabilities of the North Atlantic Treaty Organization  
13 (NATO) against the Warsaw Pact led by the Soviet Union for four  
14 decades; and

15 WHEREAS, The United States Air Force established our  
16 country's preeminent defense strategy, known as the Strategic  
17 Air Command (SAC), and through force structure enhancement  
18 transformed this strategy into the current Air Combat and  
19 Mobility Command; and

20 WHEREAS, Today the United States Air Force has more than  
21 350,000 active-duty airmen, representing 50% of our total force  
22 in air power; and

23 WHEREAS, The United States Air Force, despite its smaller  
24 size since the end of the Cold War, is continually called upon  
25 to participate in contingency operations with a global reach;  
26 and

27 WHEREAS, The United States Air Force has taken on a whole new  
28 role in the global war on terror since September 11, 2001, while  
29 actively protecting the homeland and our freedom; and

30 WHEREAS, With this year's theme, "Heritage to Horizons," the

1 men and women of the United States Air Force who have served our  
2 State and nation proudly during the first 60 years look forward  
3 to the challenges of the next 60 years; therefore be it

4       RESOLVED, That the House of Representatives of the  
5 Commonwealth of Pennsylvania honor the memory, sacrifices and  
6 contributions of those who have shown courage and strength in  
7 building what is now the world's only truly global air and space  
8 force; and be it further

9       RESOLVED, That the House of Representatives offer  
10 congratulations to the United States Air Force upon the joyous  
11 celebration of its 60th anniversary and extend best wishes for  
12 many more joyous celebrations in the years to come; and be it  
13 further

14       RESOLVED, That a copy of this resolution be transmitted to  
15 the Chief of Staff of the United States Air Force.