

THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF PENNSYLVANIA

HOUSE RESOLUTION

No. 410 Session of
2007

INTRODUCED BY DeWEESE, HARHAI, SOLOBAY, GEORGE, ARGALL, BELFANTI, BENNINGTON, BEYER, BOBACK, BRENNAN, BUXTON, CALTAGIRONE, CAPPELLI, CAUSER, CLYMER, COHEN, COSTA, CREIGHTON, DALEY, DePASQUALE, DiGIROLAMO, DONATUCCI, EACHUS, ELLIS, J. EVANS, FAIRCHILD, FLECK, FRANKEL, FREEMAN, GALLOWAY, GEIST, GIBBONS, GINGRICH, GODSHALL, GOODMAN, GRUCELA, HARKINS, HENNESSEY, HERSHEY, HICKERNELL, HORNAMAN, JAMES, JOSEPHS, KENNEY, KORTZ, KOTIK, KULA, LENTZ, MAHONEY, MANN, MANTZ, MARKOSEK, McCALL, McILHATTAN, MELIO, MILLARD, R. MILLER, MUSTIO, BASTIAN, MUNDY, MYERS, SHAPIRO, NAILOR, SHIMKUS, D. O'BRIEN, S. H. SMITH, M. O'BRIEN, SONNEY, PALLONE, SWANGER, PARKER, STABACK, PAYNE, PETRARCA, O'NEILL, PETRONE, PHILLIPS, QUIGLEY, VEREB, RAMALEY, YOUNGBLOOD, READSHAW, WALKO, REED, YUDICHAK, REICHLEY, VULAKOVICH, ROHRER, TRUE, ROSS, SABATINA, STERN, SAINATO, SAMUELSON, SANTONI, SURRA, SAYLOR, SCAVELLO, WATSON, SEIP AND EVERETT, SEPTEMBER 26, 2007

INTRODUCED AS NONCONTROVERSIAL RESOLUTION UNDER RULE 35, SEPTEMBER 26, 2007

A CONCURRENT RESOLUTION

1 Designating December 19, 2007, as "Coal Miner's Day" in
2 Pennsylvania in appreciation, honor and remembrance of the
3 accomplishments and sacrifices of coal miners in this
4 Commonwealth.

5 WHEREAS, The number of coal miners who have died on the job
6 in this Commonwealth since 1870 totals 51,509, which consists of
7 31,118 underground anthracite fatalities and 20,391 underground
8 bituminous fatalities; and

9 WHEREAS, In 1907, the deadliest year in United States and
10 Pennsylvania coal mining history, 3,242 miners were killed,
11 including 1,514 miners from Pennsylvania; and

1 WHEREAS, On December 19, 1907, a dust and gas explosion
2 claimed the lives of 239 miners in the Darr Mine in Van Meter,
3 Westmoreland County, marking the deadliest accident in
4 Pennsylvania mining history; and

5 WHEREAS, The General Assembly recognizes the significance of
6 coal mining to the history and vitality of this Commonwealth and
7 its economy; and

8 WHEREAS, Coal mining is safer today because the industry, its
9 miners and government are working together to make the safety of
10 miners the highest priority, thereby significantly reducing the
11 frequency of accidents and fatalities; and

12 WHEREAS, The near-catastrophe and successful rescue of nine
13 miners at the Quecreek Mine in Somerset County in July 2002, the
14 deaths of 12 miners at the Sago Mine in West Virginia in January
15 2006 and the tragedy involving the six miners and three rescue
16 workers at the Crandall Canyon Mine in Utah in August 2007 serve
17 as stark reminders of the dangers related to mining; and

18 WHEREAS, Coal miners who have perished in Pennsylvania coal
19 mine accidents and disasters and the families they left behind
20 should not be forgotten; and

21 WHEREAS, On the centennial of the Darr Mine disaster, the
22 General Assembly seeks to designate December 19, 2007, as "Coal
23 Miner's Day" in Pennsylvania in appreciation, honor and
24 remembrance of the accomplishments and sacrifices of coal miners
25 in this Commonwealth; and

26 WHEREAS, Part of the day on December 19, 2007, should be set
27 aside for quiet contemplation to honor those brave miners; and

28 WHEREAS, The General Assembly urges the Governor to issue a
29 proclamation designating December 19, 2007, as "Coal Miner's
30 Day" in Pennsylvania; therefore be it

1 RESOLVED (the Senate concurring), That the General Assembly
2 designate December 19, 2007, as "Coal Miner's Day" in
3 Pennsylvania in appreciation, honor and remembrance of the
4 accomplishments and sacrifices of miners in this Commonwealth;
5 and be it further

6 RESOLVED, That on December 19, 2007, at least part of the day
7 be set aside for quiet contemplation to honor those brave
8 miners; and be it further

9 RESOLVED, That a copy of this resolution be transmitted to
10 the Governor requesting his issuance of a proclamation to
11 proclaim December 19, 2007, as "Coal Miner's Day" in
12 Pennsylvania.