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THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF PENNSYLVANIA

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HOUSE RESOLUTION

No. 888 Session of  
2008

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INTRODUCED BY KESSLER, COX, READSHAW, BAKER, BEAR, BELFANTI, BRENNAN, BROOKS, CALTAGIRONE, CUTLER, DONATUCCI, FABRIZIO, GEIST, GEORGE, GIBBONS, GODSHALL, GRUCELA, HARPER, HESS, HORNAMAN, JAMES, M. KELLER, KENNEY, LENTZ, MAHER, MAJOR, MANDERINO, MANN, McCALL, McGEEHAN, McILHATTAN, MENSCH, MILLARD, MUSTIO, NAILOR, O'NEILL, PALLONE, PASHINSKI, PAYNE, PICKETT, PYLE, QUINN, RAMALEY, REICHLEY, ROAE, ROSS, SAINATO, SAMUELSON, SANTONI, SAYLOR, SCHRODER, SHIMKUS, SIPTROTH, K. SMITH, SONNEY, STABACK, SWANGER, VULAKOVICH, J. WHITE, ARGALL, HELM, HICKERNELL, KORTZ, MARSHALL, SURRA, FAIRCHILD, R. MILLER, MICOZZIE, MOYER, ROEBUCK AND TRUE, SEPTEMBER 18, 2008

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INTRODUCED AS NONCONTROVERSIAL RESOLUTION UNDER RULE 35, SEPTEMBER 18, 2008

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A RESOLUTION

1 Honoring Gold Star Mother Mollie Snyder of Berks County.

2 WHEREAS, A Gold Star Mother from Pennsylvania, Mollie Snyder,  
3 has been selected as a model for a relief that is part of the  
4 monument honoring Gold Star Mothers from all armed services in  
5 all wars in which the United States has engaged since World War  
6 I; and

7 WHEREAS, Mrs. Snyder, of Berks County, is the mother of Pfc.  
8 Walter H. Snyder, Jr., deceased, who served in the Korean  
9 Conflict and died from wounds suffered during action; and

10 WHEREAS, Mrs. Snyder served as president of the Berks County  
11 Chapter of Gold Star Mothers from the late 1950s until May 2008  
12 and, upon her retirement, was made Honorary President of the

1 chapter at that time; and

2 WHEREAS, Mrs. Snyder, 99, is honored that sculptor Andrew L.  
3 Chernak has chosen Walter and her as models for a bronze relief  
4 that will be mounted along the pathway to the centerpiece statue  
5 at the proposed Gold Star Mothers Monument in Washington, D.C.;  
6 and

7 WHEREAS, The artist, who met Mrs. Snyder in 2004 at a Gold  
8 Star Mothers function, selected her for her dignity and inner  
9 strength; and

10 WHEREAS, Not only is she the first Gold Star Mother to be  
11 chosen by the artist but the bronze relief of her son and her is  
12 the first to be completed; and

13 WHEREAS, The bronze relief of Mollie and her son will be  
14 displayed at the Gold Star Mothers banquet on Saturday,  
15 September 27, 2008, in Washington DC as part of the events of  
16 Gold Star Mothers Weekend; and

17 WHEREAS, The monument itself is expected to be completed in  
18 three years; and

19 WHEREAS, Gold Star Mothers is a term that arose during World  
20 War I that embraces those mothers whose sons or daughters died  
21 from injury or illness while serving in the armed forces of the  
22 United States during World War I; World War II; the Korean  
23 Conflict; the Vietnam War; the war in the Balkans; the peacetime  
24 attack on the USS Cole by terrorists; and the conflicts in the  
25 Middle East, including Operation Desert Storm, Operation  
26 Enduring Freedom and Operation Iraqi Freedom; and

27 WHEREAS, American Gold Star Mother, Inc., is the official  
28 national service organization of Gold Star Mothers that was  
29 begun in 1928 and continues because of the bond of mutual love,  
30 sympathy and support of the many loyal, capable and patriotic

1 mothers who, while sharing their grief and their pride, have  
2 channeled their time, efforts and gifts to lessening the pain of  
3 others by honoring our deceased servicemen and servicewomen,  
4 assisting our veterans, supporting our nation and helping each  
5 other to heal; and

6 WHEREAS, In 1936, President Franklin Roosevelt recognized  
7 Gold Star Mothers for their strength and inspiration to this  
8 country; and

9 WHEREAS, Mrs. Snyder, who volunteers at the local veterans  
10 hospital and who rides annually in the Berks County "Ride for  
11 Freedom" motorcycle rally, hopes to go to the unveiling of the  
12 bronze relief at the monument, but her greater hope is that the  
13 nations of the world learn to live in peace so that there will  
14 be no more Gold Star Mothers; and

15 WHEREAS, It is fitting to pay tribute to this amazing mother  
16 who nobly represents Gold Star Mothers throughout Pennsylvania  
17 and our nation; therefore be it

18 RESOLVED, That the House of Representatives honor Gold Star  
19 Mother Mollie Snyder of Berks County.