

THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF PENNSYLVANIA

# HOUSE RESOLUTION

No. 58 Session of 2009

INTRODUCED BY COHEN, BISHOP, BRIGGS, DeWEESE, DONATUCCI,  
D. EVANS, FRANKEL, GEORGE, GERBER, KIRKLAND, KULA, MANDERINO,  
McGEEHAN, McILVAINE SMITH, MELIO, PASHINSKI, SIPTROTH AND  
YOUNGBLOOD, FEBRUARY 9, 2009

INTRODUCED AS NONCONTROVERSIAL RESOLUTION UNDER RULE 35,  
FEBRUARY 9, 2009

## A RESOLUTION

1 Recognizing and honoring Wynne Alexander for her career as a  
2 journalist, author, composer, civil rights activist and  
3 international recording artist; and commending her on the  
4 publication of her new book, "Get It From The Drums."

5 WHEREAS, Wynne Alexander is the author of the first and only  
6 music-infused civil rights curriculum in the United States,  
7 contained in her ground-breaking new book, "Get It From The  
8 Drums"; and

9 WHEREAS, That important work was originally commissioned by  
10 Dr. Dennis Creedon, Director of Creative and Performing Arts for  
11 the School District of Philadelphia; and

12 WHEREAS, "Get It From The Drums" focuses on the history of  
13 the Civil Rights, Protest and Anti-war Movements of the 1960s  
14 and 1970s and the music that was a profound part of those  
15 movements; and

16 WHEREAS, A total of 17 legendary music stars, including John  
17 Lennon, Buffy Sainte-Marie, Marvin Gaye, Pete Seeger, Janis Ian

1 and Kenny Gamble, donated the rights to their music and lyrics  
2 on behalf of the history and learning in Philadelphia; and

3 WHEREAS, Wynne's achievements in journalism, literature and  
4 music established her as a formidable woman of Arts & Letters,  
5 and her impressive work established her as a voice for social  
6 justice at a very young age; and

7 WHEREAS, At under 19 years of age, Wynne Alexander joined the  
8 prestigious new staff at radio station WDAS AM-FM in  
9 Philadelphia, where she covered hard-hitting news, including  
10 interviews and stories on Coretta Scott King, Muhammad Ali, Rosa  
11 Parks, Ambassador Andrew Young and B.B. King, to name just a  
12 few; and

13 WHEREAS, Wynne is also the writer/producer of  
14 WDASHistory.org, chronicling the enormous social impact of this  
15 cultural institution and the revolutionary milestones set by the  
16 radio station in civil rights, broadcasting and music history;  
17 and

18 WHEREAS, Wynne developed her fighting spirit and abilities  
19 watching and continuing the Civil Rights work of her father and  
20 grandfather; and

21 WHEREAS, Musically, Wynne's creative talents include work as  
22 a composer and international recording artist whose music has  
23 been critically acclaimed from Philadelphia to Paris, France;  
24 and

25 WHEREAS, Wynne's musical recordings are available in Cote  
26 d'Ivoire, Australia, Switzerland, Yugoslavia, France, Greece and  
27 Canada; and

28 WHEREAS, Whenever Wynne and fellow musicians are on stage,  
29 they are musical ambassadors, bridging cultural differences,  
30 sending immediate signals of cultural embrace, artistic

1 excellence and unity; therefore be it

2       RESOLVED, That the House of Representatives extend its  
3 congratulations to Wynne Alexander on the publication of her  
4 book, "Get It From The Drums," and for her life's work at the  
5 intersection of music, civil rights and journalism; and be it  
6 further

7       RESOLVED, That a copy of this resolution be transmitted to  
8 Wynne Alexander at 649 South Highland Avenue, Merion PA 19066.