THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF PENNSYLVANIA

HOUSE RESOLUTION No. 149 Session of 2009

INTRODUCED BY McCALL, MARCH 17, 2009

INTRODUCED AS NONCONTROVERSIAL RESOLUTION UNDER RULE 35, MARCH 17, 2009

A RESOLUTION

Designating March 25, 2009, as "Greek Independence Day" in 1 2 Pennsylvania. 3 WHEREAS, The ancient Greeks developed democracy, in which the power to govern was vested in the people, and the founding 4 5 fathers of the United States drew upon the experience and 6 philosophy of ancient Greece in forming its representative 7 democracy; and 8 WHEREAS, Many Americans fought alongside the Greeks in their 9 fight for independence, and Greece has been allied with this 10 nation in every major international conflict in the 20th 11 century; and 12 WHEREAS, Sir Winston Churchill said of the Greeks, "Hence, we 13 will not say that Greeks fight like heroes, but that heroes 14 fight like Greeks"; and 15 WHEREAS, Greece and the United States serve as the forefront 16 of the worldwide effort to promote freedom, democracy, peace, 17 stability and human rights, ideals which have forged a close 18 bond between our nations; and

1 WHEREAS, Approximately 3 million proud Greek Americans have 2 established an enduring bridge between the United States and 3 Greece, remaining connected to their heritage and passing their 4 traditions on to new generations; and

5 WHEREAS, Greek Americans in this Commonwealth have played a 6 significant role in the economic, cultural and social 7 development of this Commonwealth; therefore be it 8 RESOLVED, That the House of Representatives designate March 9 25, 2009, as "Greek Independence Day" in Pennsylvania; and be it 10 further

11 RESOLVED, That all citizens are encouraged to recognize the 12 struggles of the Greek people for freedom in their homeland and 13 to reflect upon the importance of self-determination for all the 14 people of the world.