

THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF PENNSYLVANIA

HOUSE RESOLUTION

No. 412 Session of
2009

INTRODUCED BY BROWN, WATERS, BUXTON, CALTAGIRONE, DONATUCCI,
GEIST, HARKINS, HENNESSEY, JOHNSON, JOSEPHS, KIRKLAND,
PARKER, PAYTON, QUINN, SCAVELLO, SEIP, SIPTROTH, WHEATLEY AND
MYERS, JULY 15, 2009

REFERRED TO COMMITTEE ON RULES, JULY 15, 2009

A RESOLUTION

1 Celebrating the musical, entertainment, cultural, charitable and
2 humanitarian contributions of Michael Joseph Jackson and
3 extending condolences to his family.

4 WHEREAS, Michael Joseph Jackson was born on August 29, 1958,
5 in Gary, Indiana, the seventh of nine children, to Joseph, a
6 steelworker, and Katherine Jackson, a homemaker and employee of
7 Sears, Roebuck and Company; and

8 WHEREAS, Mr. Jackson performed at the famed Apollo Theater in
9 1967 with his brothers and achieved fame as a member of The
10 Jackson 5 by the time he was 11 years of age; and

11 WHEREAS, Mr. Jackson is recognized as the "King of Pop," and
12 he produced such hit songs as "Billie Jean," "Beat It" and
13 "Thriller"; and

14 WHEREAS, Mr. Jackson's album, *Thriller*, is one of the most-
15 popular and highest-selling albums of all time; and

16 WHEREAS, Mr. Jackson transformed music videos from mere
17 marketing tools into sensational musical and theatrical

1 productions; and

2 WHEREAS, Mr. Jackson was inducted into the Rock and Roll Hall
3 of Fame twice; and

4 WHEREAS, Mr. Jackson is celebrated for his cultural
5 contributions as an American icon in music, dance, performance
6 and fashion; and

7 WHEREAS, Mr. Jackson broke down racial barriers by becoming
8 the first African-American entertainer to attract a large
9 following on MTV; and

10 WHEREAS, On September 13, 1987, Mr. Jackson supported a
11 campaign against racism and assisted the National Association
12 for the Advancement of Colored People in its fight against the
13 discrimination of African-American artists; and

14 WHEREAS, Mr. Jackson created the Michael Jackson United Negro
15 College Fund Endowed Scholarship with a \$1.5 million donation;
16 and

17 WHEREAS, While Mr. Jackson was known all around the world as
18 an entertainer, he was also a noteworthy and caring
19 philanthropist and humanitarian; and

20 WHEREAS, Mr. Jackson cowrote the song, "We Are the World,"
21 and recorded it with 44 other popular artists, raising more than
22 \$68 million to fight famine in Africa; and

23 WHEREAS, Mr. Jackson donated more than \$50 million of his
24 personal wealth to 40 or more charities, among them Big Brothers
25 of America and Big Sisters of America, the Ronald McDonald Camp
26 and the Make-A-Wish Foundation; and

27 WHEREAS, Several foundations, hospital units and institutes
28 have been created in Mr. Jackson's name because of his
29 philanthropic efforts; and

30 WHEREAS, Michael Jackson was the proud and loving father of

1 Michael Joseph Jr., Paris Michael Katherine and Prince Michael
2 II; beloved brother to his many brothers and sisters; and a
3 loving son to his parents, Katherine and Joseph; therefore be it

4 RESOLVED, That Michael Jackson was a remarkably talented
5 entertainer, a cultural icon, a leader in the effort for racial
6 equality and a noteworthy philanthropist and humanitarian in the
7 global fight against hunger and medical crises; and be it
8 further

9 RESOLVED, That Mr. Jackson's talent and humanitarianism will
10 long be remembered and appreciated; and be it further

11 RESOLVED, That the House of Representatives celebrate the
12 contributions of Michael Joseph Jackson to music, entertainment,
13 culture and charity and extend sincere and heartfelt condolences
14 to his family.