

THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF PENNSYLVANIA

HOUSE RESOLUTION

No. 430 Session of 2009

INTRODUCED BY D. COSTA, WALKO, DEASY, MATZIE, BARBIN, BEAR, BRADFORD, BRENNAN, BROOKS, CALTAGIRONE, CASORIO, CLYMER, COHEN, CONKLIN, P. COSTA, CREIGHTON, DALEY, DELOZIER, DeLUCA, DENLINGER, DERMODY, DONATUCCI, FLECK, FRANKEL, GEORGE, GERGELY, GIBBONS, GRUCELA, HARHAI, HESS, HORNAMAN, KIRKLAND, KORTZ, KULA, MAHER, MAHONEY, MAJOR, MARKOSEK, MARSHALL, MCGEEHAN, MELIO, METZGAR, MILLARD, MIRABITO, MOUL, MUSTIO, OBERLANDER, M. O'BRIEN, O'NEILL, PALLONE, PASHINSKI, PAYTON, PHILLIPS, PRESTON, READSHAW, ROCK, SAINATO, SANTARSIERO, SANTONI, SAYLOR, SCAVELLO, SEIP, SIPTROTH, SONNEY, STABACK, SWANGER, WAGNER AND YOUNGBLOOD, AUGUST 3, 2009

INTRODUCED AS NONCONTROVERSIAL RESOLUTION UNDER RULE 35, AUGUST 3, 2009

A RESOLUTION

1 Honoring the Pittsburgh Police Motorcycle Unit and its 100 years
2 of service to the great citizens of the City of Pittsburgh.

3 WHEREAS, The long and proud tradition of the Pittsburgh
4 Police Motorcycle Unit began in 1909 with the purchase of five
5 Harley-Davidson police motorcycles, making Pittsburgh the second
6 major city in the United States to use motorcycles for police
7 work; and

8 WHEREAS, The officers and their motorcycles were immediately
9 pressed into service and proved their worth during the streetcar
10 strike of 1909 where the motorcycles were used to keep the peace
11 and public order; and

12 WHEREAS, The strike was closely followed by the opening of
13 Forbes Field, and with the 1909 baseball season concluding with

1 the Pittsburgh Pirates winning the World Series, the motorcycle
2 officers proved their ability to manage major events; and

3 WHEREAS, The motorcycle unit also provided the first
4 presidential escort in the city when President Theodore
5 Roosevelt came to visit Pittsburgh in 1909; and

6 WHEREAS, Women were permitted to join the motorcycle unit in
7 the 1980s and seven have served to date; and

8 WHEREAS, Since its inception, the Pittsburgh Police
9 Motorcycle Unit has selected Harley-Davidson motorcycles
10 exclusively; and

11 WHEREAS, The Pittsburgh Bureau of Police maintained its
12 largest fleet of 64 Harley-Davidson motorcycles from 1990 to
13 1997 and currently has a fleet of 27 motorcycles; and

14 WHEREAS, Today, the 26 men and one woman of this outstanding
15 unit serve the citizens of Pittsburgh on a daily basis by
16 controlling traffic during rush-hour commutes, conducting drunk-
17 driving patrols, monitoring speeding in school zones and working
18 parades, funerals, concerts and other events; therefore be it

19 RESOLVED, That the House of Representatives honor the
20 Pittsburgh Police Motorcycle Unit and its 100 years of service
21 to the great citizens of the City of Pittsburgh; and be it
22 further

23 RESOLVED, That the House of Representatives extend best
24 wishes that the Pittsburgh Police Motorcycle Unit continue for
25 many years to come with the same success they have enjoyed since
26 1909; and be it further

27 RESOLVED, That a copy of this resolution be transmitted to
28 the Pittsburgh Police Motorcycle Unit, Pittsburgh Bureau of
29 Police Headquarters, 1203 Western Avenue, Pittsburgh PA 15233.