

THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF PENNSYLVANIA

HOUSE RESOLUTION

No. 825 Session of 2010

INTRODUCED BY WATERS, PARKER, BROWN, ROEBUCK, THOMAS, BELFANTI, BISHOP, BRENNAN, CALTAGIRONE, CONKLIN, D. COSTA, DALEY, DONATUCCI, FREEMAN, GEORGE, GOODMAN, HARKINS, KORTZ, MCGEEHAN, MIRABITO, MURPHY, PALLONE, PASHINSKI, READSHAW, SAINATO, SANTARSIERO, SANTONI, SEIP, SIPTROTH, STABACK, R. TAYLOR AND YOUNGBLOOD, MAY 26, 2010

INTRODUCED AS NONCONTROVERSIAL RESOLUTION UNDER RULE 35, MAY 26, 2010

A RESOLUTION

1 Honoring the life and legacy of Lena Horne, famed actress,
2 singer and dancer, who passed away May 9, 2010, at the age of
3 92.

4 WHEREAS, Lena Horne was born in 1917 in New York City, the
5 daughter of Edwin Horne and Edna Scottron, and was a one-time
6 resident of Pennsylvania; and

7 WHEREAS, One of the most popular African-American performers
8 of the 1940s and 1950s, Ms. Horne became the first African
9 American in history to sign a contract with a major film studio
10 in Hollywood, California; and

11 WHEREAS, Ms. Horne went on to hold roles in movies such as
12 *Cabin in the Sky*, *Stormy Weather* and *Panama Hattie*; and

13 WHEREAS, Ms. Horne's vocal ability transcended racial bias,
14 making her the first African-American woman to work across color
15 lines; and

16 WHEREAS, Ms. Horne was a prominent activist during the Civil

1 Rights Movement, performing at rallies across the nation
2 decrying racial prejudice against minorities; and

3 WHEREAS, Ms. Horne was also a prominent figure of the March
4 on Washington and spoke and performed on behalf of the NAACP and
5 the National Council of Negro Women; and

6 WHEREAS, Ms. Horne spent the greater part of her life
7 speaking out against segregation, discrimination and social
8 injustices; and

9 WHEREAS, Her notable recognitions include four Grammy Awards,
10 a Tony Award, an NAACP Image Award, two stars on the Hollywood
11 Walk of Fame and many others over the course of her lifetime;
12 and

13 WHEREAS, While Ms. Horne encountered countless challenges and
14 obstacles, she paved the way for success and opportunity for
15 minorities in the entertainment industry and will forever be
16 remembered as a legendary cultural figure in our history;
17 therefore be it

18 RESOLVED, That the House of Representatives honor the life
19 and legacy of Lena Horne and express its deepest sympathy to her
20 surviving family members.