

THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF PENNSYLVANIA

# HOUSE RESOLUTION

No. 863 Session of  
2010

INTRODUCED BY PAYTON, CALTAGIRONE, HARPER, KIRKLAND, MILNE AND  
SIPTROTH, JUNE 24, 2010

INTRODUCED AS NONCONTROVERSIAL RESOLUTION UNDER RULE 35, JUNE  
24, 2010

## A RESOLUTION

1 Recognizing the Vietnamese Freedom and Heritage Flag as the  
2 official flag of the Vietnamese American Community.

3 WHEREAS, The United States is among the freest and most  
4 democratic countries in the world, and its citizens have the  
5 liberty to use other symbols, crests and flags to represent  
6 their groups, organizations, clubs and ethnic or cultural  
7 heritages; and

8 WHEREAS, The Vietnamese American community has chosen to be  
9 represented by a flag symbol that is meaningful to the  
10 Vietnamese heritage; and

11 WHEREAS, Over the past ten years, many schools, universities  
12 and local municipalities have displayed flags to represent the  
13 diversity that exists in their populations; and

14 WHEREAS, The display of the current flag of Vietnam is  
15 objected to by Vietnamese Americans because hundreds of  
16 thousands of Vietnamese lost their lives and families in the war  
17 and at sea in their struggle to seek freedom and escape from the

1 retribution of the Vietnamese Communist Government, which the  
2 current flag represents; and

3 WHEREAS, Dating back to 1948, before the existence of the  
4 former Republic of Vietnam, the Vietnam Freedom and Heritage  
5 Flag has a long history in Vietnam and is a symbol of  
6 resilience, freedom and yearning for democracy that is deeply  
7 rooted in the cultural heritage of Vietnamese Americans; and

8 WHEREAS, As long as the current Vietnamese Communist  
9 Government continues its totalitarian rule without respect for  
10 civil and human rights, Vietnamese Americans will practice their  
11 constitutional rights of expression by choosing the yellow flag  
12 with red stripes, known as the Vietnamese Freedom and Heritage  
13 Flag, to represent Vietnamese heritage and as a symbol of  
14 freedom for the Vietnamese American Community; and

15 WHEREAS, As of the 2000 United States Census, this  
16 Commonwealth is home to more than 30,000 Vietnamese Americans  
17 who have made positive contributions to this Commonwealth  
18 through taxes, business establishments and cultural enrichments;  
19 and

20 WHEREAS, Acknowledging the Vietnamese Freedom and Heritage  
21 Flag will honor Vietnamese Americans and signify a profound and  
22 humane gesture for all citizens of this Commonwealth; therefore  
23 be it

24 RESOLVED, That the House of Representatives recognize the  
25 Vietnamese Freedom and Heritage Flag as the official flag of the  
26 Vietnamese American community.