

THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF PENNSYLVANIA

# HOUSE RESOLUTION

No. 55 Session of 2011

INTRODUCED BY PYLE, HARHAI, BENNINGHOFF, BRENNAN, BURNS, CAUSER, CHRISTIANA, P. COSTA, CUTLER, DALEY, DIGIROLAMO, EVERETT, FABRIZIO, GABLER, GEORGE, GINGRICH, GODSHALL, HARHART, HEFFLEY, HENNESSEY, HESS, HUTCHINSON, M.K. KELLER, KILLION, KNOWLES, KORTZ, KRIEGER, LONGIETTI, MAJOR, MARSHALL, MARSICO, MASSER, MILLARD, MURPHY, MUSTIO, OBERLANDER, PASHINSKI, PAYNE, PETRARCA, PICKETT, READSHAW, REED, REICHLEY, ROSS, SAYLOR, SONNEY, STERN, STEVENSON, SWANGER, TALLMAN, VEREB, VULAKOVICH, WATSON, YOUNGBLOOD AND METZGAR, FEBRUARY 4, 2011

INTRODUCED AS NONCONTROVERSIAL RESOLUTION UNDER RULE 35, FEBRUARY 4, 2011

## A RESOLUTION

1 Recognizing and paying tribute to the important role the coal  
2 mining industry plays in the economy of this Commonwealth and  
3 recognizing 2010 as a year in which there were no coal mining  
4 fatalities in this Commonwealth and congratulating all those  
5 who contributed to this significant achievement.

6 WHEREAS, The coal industry has played a significant role in  
7 the history and vitality of this Commonwealth; and

8 WHEREAS, Pennsylvania is the fourth-leading coal producing  
9 state in the United States, mining 68 million tons in the  
10 previous year with 80% of this output from 39 underground mines  
11 and the remainder from 377 surface mines and reprocessing sites;  
12 and

13 WHEREAS, The Pennsylvania coal mining industry is a major  
14 economic engine for this Commonwealth, creating 49,100 direct  
15 and indirect jobs with a total payroll in excess of \$2.2

1 billion; and

2 WHEREAS, Taxes on these wages generated more than \$700  
3 million in revenue for the Commonwealth; and

4 WHEREAS, Coal has been and will continue to be the major fuel  
5 of choice for electric generation, with 50% of the electricity  
6 generated in the United States being produced by coal and coal  
7 accounting for 56% of the total amount of electricity generated  
8 in Pennsylvania in the past year; and

9 WHEREAS, While the use of coal has increased, advances in  
10 technology have allowed it to be processed and utilized in a  
11 cleaner and more environmentally friendly manner; and

12 WHEREAS, From 1979 to 2009, coal generation increased by 225%  
13 while emissions of regulated pollutants decreased by 77%; and

14 WHEREAS, Coal mining is an inherently hazardous occupation  
15 accounting for 48 fatalities in the United States in 2010; and

16 WHEREAS, In 2010, there were no coal mining-related  
17 fatalities in this Commonwealth, which is a tribute to the  
18 dedication of the men and women within the industry creating a  
19 safer work environment; therefore be it

20 RESOLVED, That the House of Representatives recognize and pay  
21 tribute to the important role the coal mining industry plays in  
22 the economy of this Commonwealth; and be it further

23 RESOLVED, That the House of Representatives recognize 2010 as  
24 a year in which there were no coal mining fatalities in this  
25 Commonwealth and congratulate all those who contributed to this  
26 significant achievement.