
THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF PENNSYLVANIA

HOUSE RESOLUTION

No. 553 Session of
2012

INTRODUCED BY W. KELLER, TAYLOR, MCGEEHAN, BROWNLEE, CARROLL,
P. COSTA, DONATUCCI, JOSEPHS, M. O'BRIEN, ROEBUCK, SABATINA,
K. SMITH AND YOUNGBLOOD, JANUARY 31, 2012

INTRODUCED AS NONCONTROVERSIAL RESOLUTION UNDER RULE 35, JANUARY
31, 2012

A RESOLUTION

1 Supporting continued Federal funding for the Delaware River Main
2 Channel Deepening Project.

3 WHEREAS, The House of Representatives of the Commonwealth of
4 Pennsylvania expresses its strong support for the Delaware River
5 Main Channel Deepening Project, which seeks to enhance the
6 navigation channel leading to the City of Philadelphia's harbor
7 in order to accommodate larger ships that will soon be able to
8 move through the Panama Canal; and

9 WHEREAS, The Panama Canal expansion project, which is
10 anticipated to be completed in 2014, will provide passage for
11 larger shipping vessels and cargoes from the Pacific to the
12 eastern United States; and

13 WHEREAS, The deepening of the Delaware River navigation
14 channel by an additional five feet, from 40 feet to 45 feet, is
15 essential if the Port of Philadelphia and surrounding region is
16 to remain competitive and take advantage of increased importing
17 and exporting opportunities; and

1 WHEREAS, The project will support Federal and State efforts
2 to spur job creation and economic growth, importantly protecting
3 and preserving good-paying jobs at a time when unemployment
4 remains high in Philadelphia and within the maritime industry;
5 and

6 WHEREAS, Additional jobs and business opportunities that
7 result from the eventual increase in shipping will create a
8 ripple effect of secondary jobs to the region and surrounding
9 areas; and

10 WHEREAS, In 1992, the Congress of the United States
11 authorized the project for construction by the United States
12 Army Corps of Engineers; and

13 WHEREAS, The United States Army Corps of Engineers estimates
14 that the expansion of the channel will cost \$266 million, and in
15 order to be completed, it must receive a Federal funding
16 allocation; and

17 WHEREAS, Pennsylvania United States Senators Pat Toomey and
18 Robert P. Casey, Jr., and Congressman Robert Brady are working
19 to secure the necessary funding for the deepening project and
20 are pursuing funds already appropriated to the United States
21 Army Corps of Engineers for navigation work; and

22 WHEREAS, As other states are also vying for Federal funding
23 for dredging of ports, strong support by the Commonwealth of
24 Pennsylvania for the project is essential for funding efforts to
25 be successful; therefore be it

26 RESOLVED, That the House of Representatives of the
27 Commonwealth of Pennsylvania express its full support and
28 backing for the Delaware River Main Channel Deepening Project
29 and for the inclusion of funding for the project in the FY 2013
30 Federal budget; and be it further

1 RESOLVED, That a copy of this resolution be transmitted to
2 the President of the United States, to each member of Congress
3 from Pennsylvania and to the director of the United States
4 Office of Management and Budget.