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THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF PENNSYLVANIA

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HOUSE RESOLUTION

No. 635 Session of  
2012

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INTRODUCED BY M. SMITH, MUSTIO, BRENNAN, CALTAGIRONE, CLYMER, COHEN, CONKLIN, D. COSTA, DAVIS, DEASY, DIGIROLAMO, EVERETT, FABRIZIO, FRANKEL, GEORGE, GINGRICH, GOODMAN, GRELL, HARHAI, HARKINS, HARPER, HENNESSEY, HESS, KORTZ, KULA, MAHONEY, MANN, MARSHALL, MATZIE, MICOZZIE, MILLARD, MURT, PYLE, RAVENSTAHL, READSHAW, ROCK, ROSS, SCAVELLO, SONNEY, SWANGER, TOEPEL, VEREB, VULAKOVICH, WATERS AND YOUNGBLOOD, MARCH 30, 2012

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INTRODUCED AS NONCONTROVERSIAL RESOLUTION UNDER RULE 35, MARCH 30, 2012

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A RESOLUTION

1 Recognizing April 14, 2012, as "Martha Dixon Day" in  
2 Pennsylvania to honor the life of FBI Special Agent Martha  
3 Dixon.

4 WHEREAS, Martha Dixon was born January 10, 1959, in Mount  
5 Lebanon; and

6 WHEREAS, Ms. Dixon graduated from Mount Lebanon High School  
7 in 1977; and

8 WHEREAS, She continued her education at the University of  
9 Pittsburgh, from which she graduated in 1982 with a degree in  
10 chemistry; and

11 WHEREAS, Ms. Dixon began her professional career in Little  
12 Rock, Arkansas, at the Arkansas State Crime Laboratory where she  
13 worked as a forensic chemist analyzing crime scenes and  
14 providing expert testimony on behalf of the State of Arkansas;  
15 and

1       WHEREAS, Ms. Dixon became an agent of the Federal Bureau of  
2 Investigation (FBI) in 1987; and

3       WHEREAS, She was then assigned to the Knoxville, Tennessee,  
4 FBI Field Office, where, among other assignments, she negotiated  
5 and resolved the uprising at the Talladega Federal Correctional  
6 Institution in August 1991; and

7       WHEREAS, Her participation in this event and successful  
8 forced entry into the prison, which had been overtaken by  
9 prisoners, returned control to prison officials, for which she  
10 was decorated for her bravery; and

11       WHEREAS, In 1992, Ms. Dixon was transferred from the  
12 Knoxville field office to the Washington, DC, Main Field Office  
13 of the FBI (WMFO), and assigned to the Cold Case Homicide Task  
14 Force to assist the Washington, DC, Metro Police Force in  
15 determining unsolved crimes; and

16       WHEREAS, On November 22, 1994, Special Agent Dixon made the  
17 ultimate sacrifice on behalf of the FBI as she responded to  
18 gunfire in the Cold Case Division area of the WMFO; and

19       WHEREAS, By injuring the perpetrator, Ms. Dixon prevented the  
20 possibility of an even greater loss of human life and injury to  
21 fellow law enforcement agents and civilians within the building;  
22 and

23       WHEREAS, Ms. Dixon has been awarded several honors, including  
24 the FBI Memorial Star, the FBI Commendation for Meritorious  
25 Service, the FBI Medal of Valor, the Michael John Buczek Medal  
26 of Honor, the FBI Agents Association's J. Edgar Hoover Memorial  
27 Award for Valor, the Attorney General's Award for Bravery, the  
28 naming of the FBI Pittsburgh Field Office in her honor,  
29 recognition on numerous memorial plaques and the 2006  
30 Outstanding Mount Lebanon High School Alumni Award; and

1       WHEREAS, In memory of Ms. Dixon, her family initiated the  
2 Martha Fund; and

3       WHEREAS, The largest fundraiser for the Martha Fund is  
4 "Martha's Run," which is an event exemplifying Ms. Dixon's love  
5 of running, and the 2012 "Martha's Run" is scheduled for April  
6 14, 2012; and

7       WHEREAS, Donations to the Martha Fund are used to build or  
8 renovate and maintain playgrounds; and, to date, three public  
9 playgrounds have been erected in her honor, including Martha's  
10 Playground in Mount Lebanon; and

11       WHEREAS, Martha was the proud aunt to several nieces and  
12 nephews and loved watching them play; and

13       WHEREAS, These playgrounds offer children a safe place to  
14 play; therefore be it

15       RESOLVED, That the House of Representatives recognize April  
16 14, 2012, as "Martha Dixon Day" in Pennsylvania, to honor the  
17 life of Martha Dixon, FBI Special Agent, who paid the ultimate  
18 sacrifice in the line of duty while engaged in the protection of  
19 others.