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THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF PENNSYLVANIA

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HOUSE RESOLUTION

No. 644 Session of  
2012

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INTRODUCED BY CLYMER, AUMENT, BAKER, CALTAGIRONE, D. COSTA, CUTLER, DALEY, DIGIROLAMO, EVERETT, FARRY, FLECK, FRANKEL, GEIST, GEORGE, GILLEN, GILLESPIE, GINGRICH, GODSHALL, GOODMAN, GROVE, HACKETT, HAHN, HARHART, HARKINS, HARPER, HARRIS, HENNESSEY, HESS, HUTCHINSON, KAUFFMAN, KILLION, KIRKLAND, KNOWLES, MAJOR, MANN, MARSICO, MCGEEHAN, MILLARD, MILNE, MURT, MYERS, O'NEILL, PICKETT, QUIGLEY, READSHAW, ROCK, ROEBUCK, ROSS, SABATINA, SACCONI, SANTONI, SCAVELLO, SCHRODER, SONNEY, STERN, STEVENSON, SWANGER, TALLMAN, TOOHL, VEREB, VULAKOVICH, WATSON AND YOUNGBLOOD, MARCH 29, 2012

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INTRODUCED AS NONCONTROVERSIAL RESOLUTION UNDER RULE 35, MARCH 29, 2012

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A RESOLUTION

1 Commemorating the 200th anniversary of the War of 1812.

2 WHEREAS, The War of 1812 was a result of resentment of  
3 Britain's interference with American international trade,  
4 combined with American expansionist visions; and

5 WHEREAS, The Congress of the United States declared war on  
6 Great Britain on June 18, 1812; and

7 WHEREAS, Initially, the American navy was victorious in the  
8 Atlantic Ocean and on Lake Erie, but a number of defeats by the  
9 British demoralized the Americans; and

10 WHEREAS, On August 24, 1814, British troops marched into  
11 Washington, DC, and burned the Capitol Building and the White  
12 House; and

13 WHEREAS, The future of the United States was in jeopardy when

1 the British attacked Baltimore, Maryland; and

2 WHEREAS, British warships started firing bombs and rockets on  
3 Fort McHenry, which protected the city's harbor, on September  
4 13, 1814; and

5 WHEREAS, The bombardment continued for 25 hours when Francis  
6 Scott Key, who was aboard a ship several miles from the harbor,  
7 could barely make out an American flag waving above Fort  
8 McHenry; and

9 WHEREAS, That flag was sewn by Mary Pickersgill in 1813 as  
10 one of two garrison flags for Fort McHenry; and

11 WHEREAS, The flag became the Star-Spangled Banner; and

12 WHEREAS, Key, with British ships withdrawing from Baltimore,  
13 realized that America had stopped the British advance and wrote  
14 a song celebrating "that star-spangled banner" as a symbol of  
15 America's victory and perseverance; and

16 WHEREAS, Notwithstanding the inconclusive outcome of the war,  
17 the conflict helped establish the credibility of this country  
18 among other nations; therefore be it

19 RESOLVED, That the House of Representatives commemorate the  
20 200th anniversary of the War of 1812.