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THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF PENNSYLVANIA

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HOUSE RESOLUTION

No. 781 Session of  
2012

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INTRODUCED BY SAINATO, GIBBONS, D. COSTA, KORTZ, LONGIETTI,  
BROOKS, CALTAGIRONE, DALEY, DAVIS, ELLIS, JAMES, MAHONEY,  
MANN, PASHINSKI, READSHAW, STABACK AND WATERS, JUNE 14, 2012

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REFERRED TO COMMITTEE ON STATE GOVERNMENT, JUNE 14, 2012

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A RESOLUTION

1 Urging the Congress of the United States and the United States  
2 Postal Service to reconsider the decision to consolidate  
3 operations at the mail processing and distribution facility  
4 in New Castle, Pennsylvania.

5 WHEREAS, On May 17, 2012, the United States Postal Service  
6 announced its intention to move forward with a modified plan to  
7 consolidate 229 mail processing locations in two phases; and

8 WHEREAS, The consolidation activities mostly involve the  
9 transfer of mail processing operations from smaller to larger  
10 facilities; and

11 WHEREAS, The first phase of consolidation activities is  
12 expected to result in up to 140 consolidations occurring through  
13 February 2013; and

14 WHEREAS, Unless comprehensive measures are approved in  
15 Congress that would allow the Postal Service to change the way  
16 it conducts business, a second phase of 89 facility  
17 consolidations is expected to begin in February 2014; and

18 WHEREAS, The Postal Service expects total savings of

1 approximately \$2.4 billion if all consolidation plans are  
2 completed; and

3 WHEREAS, The estimated \$2.4 billion in savings still pales in  
4 comparison to the projected \$14 billion net loss that the Postal  
5 Service is expecting in fiscal year 2012; and

6 WHEREAS, Eleven mail processing facilities throughout the  
7 Commonwealth are scheduled to be consolidated into larger  
8 facilities; and

9 WHEREAS, Among the 11 Pennsylvania facilities slated for  
10 consolidation of operations is the New Castle Processing and  
11 Distribution Facility; and

12 WHEREAS, The Postal Service plans to transfer mail processing  
13 operations currently being performed at the New Castle facility  
14 to the Pittsburgh Processing and Distribution Center located in  
15 Pittsburgh's North Side; and

16 WHEREAS, This is in addition to consolidations of the  
17 Greensburg and Washington facilities to the same Pittsburgh  
18 location; and

19 WHEREAS, Concerns have risen regarding the space and  
20 machinery capacities of the Pittsburgh facility in light of the  
21 consolidation plans; and

22 WHEREAS, Additional worries regarding the abilities and  
23 capacities of the Pittsburgh facility create uncertainty as to  
24 whether the Pittsburgh facility can fully accommodate mail from  
25 the New Castle area; and

26 WHEREAS, The men and women employed by the New Castle  
27 Processing and Distribution Facility ensure that first-class  
28 mail receives first-class delivery; and

29 WHEREAS, Consolidating or closing the facility could  
30 inconvenience local citizens through slower mail delivery; and

1       WHEREAS, The transfer of operations could incur increased  
2 costs to take mail from areas previously served by the New  
3 Castle facility to another site only to revert it back to the  
4 original area; and

5       WHEREAS, The lifeblood of a community exists in its ability  
6 to disseminate information quickly and efficiently to its  
7 citizens; and

8       WHEREAS, For many local communities, including New Castle,  
9 the delivery of pertinent information is dependent upon the  
10 Postal Service; and

11       WHEREAS, Any reduction or elimination of the services  
12 provided by the Postal Service will likely have a detrimental  
13 impact throughout the community; and

14       WHEREAS, While efforts should be taken by the Postal Service  
15 to reduce net losses, those efforts should not jeopardize the  
16 services provided to residential customers; therefore be it

17       RESOLVED, That the House of Representatives recognize the  
18 potential negative impact on communities and citizens that could  
19 arise as a result of the Postal Service consolidation plans; and  
20 be it further

21       RESOLVED, That the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania urge the  
22 Congress of the United States and the United States Postal  
23 Service to reconsider the decision to consolidate operations at  
24 the mail processing and distribution facility located in New  
25 Castle, Pennsylvania.