
THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF PENNSYLVANIA

HOUSE RESOLUTION

No. 849 Session of
2012

INTRODUCED BY LONGIETTI, BROOKS, VITALI, BARBIN, BEAR,
CALTAGIRONE, COHEN, CONKLIN, DALEY, DIGIROLAMO, EVERETT,
FABRIZIO, FLECK, FRANKEL, FREEMAN, GEORGE, GINGRICH, GOODMAN,
GRELL, HARHAI, HARHART, HARPER, HENNESSEY, HESS, HORNAMAN,
JAMES, KIRKLAND, KORTZ, KOTIK, MANN, MILLARD, MIRABITO,
O'NEILL, PARKER, READSHAW, ROSS, SAINATO, SAMUELSON, SANTONI,
SAYLOR, SCAVELLO, SCHMOTZER, SONNEY, STABACK, STEVENSON,
SWANGER, TALLMAN, WATERS AND D. COSTA, SEPTEMBER 24, 2012

INTRODUCED AS NONCONTROVERSIAL RESOLUTION UNDER RULE 35,
SEPTEMBER 24, 2012

A RESOLUTION

1 Recognizing the contributions of Dr. Maurice K. Goddard to the
2 Commonwealth in the 100-year anniversary of his birth.

3 WHEREAS, Dr. Maurice K. Goddard was born in Lowell,
4 Massachusetts, on September 13, 1912; and

5 WHEREAS, During his childhood, Dr. Goddard moved several
6 times, ultimately settling in Maine where he earned a bachelor's
7 degree in forestry from the University of Maine; and

8 WHEREAS, After graduating from the University of Maine, Dr.
9 Goddard came to the Mt. Alto campus of the Pennsylvania State
10 University where he taught for several years; and

11 WHEREAS, Dr. Goddard earned a master's degree in forestry
12 from the University of California at Berkeley and later served
13 with distinction on the staff of General Eisenhower during World
14 War II; and

1 WHEREAS, After his war service, Dr. Goddard returned to Penn
2 State University, where he led the Mt. Alto School of Forestry
3 and later moved to the main campus in State College where he
4 directed the School of Forest Resources; and

5 WHEREAS, In 1955, Dr. Goddard began his storied career as a
6 public servant in this Commonwealth when Governor George Leader
7 appointed him as Secretary of the Department of Forests and
8 Waters; and

9 WHEREAS, Dr. Goddard continued in this leadership position
10 until 1971, when Governor Milton Shapp then appointed him as
11 secretary of the newly created Department of Environmental
12 Resources; and

13 WHEREAS, Dr. Goddard's leadership extended well beyond the
14 borders of this Commonwealth, as he received many conservation
15 awards and was recognized as a national leader in conservation
16 policy; and

17 WHEREAS, Dr. Goddard was so well respected for his knowledge,
18 commitment and professionalism that both Democratic and
19 Republican governors appointed him to conservation leadership
20 positions over the next 24 years; and

21 WHEREAS, Dr. Goddard worked to implement his vision for which
22 he is most remembered: the establishment of a State park within
23 25 miles of every Commonwealth resident; and

24 WHEREAS, Dr. Goddard helped to secure dedicated funding for
25 natural resource conservation by facilitating the creation of
26 the Oil and Gas Lease Fund, which receives revenue from oil and
27 gas leases on State lands and uses these funds for conservation,
28 recreational development and land acquisition; and

29 WHEREAS, Dr. Goddard was instrumental in securing funds for
30 State parks and open spaces by shepherding the passage of

Projects 70 and 500, in which almost \$600 million was obtained for the acquisition of property and recreational facilities; and

WHEREAS, Dr. Goddard led a monumental expansion of the State park system by adding 45 State parks and 130,000 acres of State park land during his tenure; and

WHEREAS, Dr. Goddard's effort in the expansion of the State park system helped him earn distinction as the "Father of Pennsylvania State Parks"; and

WHEREAS, Dr. Goddard was instrumental in establishing both the Delaware and Susquehanna River Basin Commissions; and

WHEREAS, Dr. Goddard's leadership for Pennsylvania's natural resources extended into his retirement from public service, as he continued to serve on the boards of various conservation groups; and

WHEREAS, In his retirement from public service, Dr. Goddard continued to advocate on behalf of Pennsylvania's natural resources by pushing for the creation of a separate agency for parks and forests, which Governor Tom Ridge implemented in 1995 with the establishment of the Pennsylvania Department of Conservation and Natural Resources; and

WHEREAS, Throughout his life and until his death in 1995, Dr. Maurice K. Goddard worked tirelessly to protect Pennsylvania's natural resources and to provide current and future State residents with access to the natural beauty of this Commonwealth; therefore be it

RESOLVED, That the House of Representatives recognize the contributions of Dr. Maurice K. Goddard to the Commonwealth in the 100-year anniversary of his birth.