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THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF PENNSYLVANIA

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HOUSE RESOLUTION

No. 883 Session of  
2012

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INTRODUCED BY EVERETT, MIRABITO, CALTAGIRONE, DALEY, JAMES,  
MAJOR, MUSTIO, ROSS, SAYLOR, SONNEY, SWANGER, WATSON,  
GOODMAN, GINGRICH AND KAUFFMAN, OCTOBER 1, 2012

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INTRODUCED AS NONCONTROVERSIAL RESOLUTION UNDER RULE 35, OCTOBER  
1, 2012

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A RESOLUTION

1 Recognizing the 25th anniversary of the Center for Rural  
2 Pennsylvania.

3 WHEREAS, On June 30, 2012, the Center for Rural Pennsylvania  
4 celebrated its 25th anniversary; and

5 WHEREAS, On that day in 1987, the Center for Rural  
6 Pennsylvania was created as a bipartisan, bicameral legislative  
7 agency; and

8 WHEREAS, The Center has served as a resource for rural policy  
9 within the General Assembly, enabling them to better serve  
10 Pennsylvania's 3.4 million rural residents; and

11 WHEREAS, Pennsylvania has the third-largest rural population  
12 in the nation; and

13 WHEREAS, Pennsylvania's rural residents represent 27% of this  
14 Commonwealth's overall population, and rural Pennsylvania  
15 comprises 75% of this Commonwealth's land area; and

16 WHEREAS, The Center collects data on trends and conditions to  
17 understand the diversity of rural Pennsylvania; and

1       WHEREAS, The Center maintains the largest database on rural  
2 trends and conditions that exists in Pennsylvania; and

3       WHEREAS, The Center promotes and sustains the vitality of  
4 Pennsylvania's rural and small communities by sponsoring  
5 research projects to identify policy options for legislative  
6 branch and executive branch consideration and action; and

7       WHEREAS, The Center's research and database also address  
8 issues and opportunities that impact urban and suburban  
9 communities; and

10       WHEREAS, The Center works with members of the legislature,  
11 educators, Federal and State executive branch agencies and  
12 national, Statewide, regional and local organizations to  
13 maximize resources and strategies; and

14       WHEREAS, The Center regularly publishes its data analysis and  
15 research results to inform and educate audiences about the  
16 diverse people and communities of rural Pennsylvania; and

17       WHEREAS, The Center's data analysis and research have  
18 supported initiatives, including the Commonwealth's Area Health  
19 Education Centers, start-up and expansion of Farmers' Markets,  
20 Main Street and Elm Street Programs, Community and Education  
21 Councils and the Route 6 Tourist Association; and

22       WHEREAS, The Center's data analysis and research have  
23 highlighted such needs as expanded telecommunications services,  
24 increased access to health care and diversity of postsecondary  
25 education opportunities for rural Pennsylvanians; and

26       WHEREAS, The Center participates in national, State and local  
27 forums on rural issues to present and learn from best practices;  
28 and

29       WHEREAS, The Center has earned a national reputation for its  
30 work and accomplishments; and

1       WHEREAS, The Center is the second oldest State-level rural  
2 policy research center in operation today; therefore be it

3       RESOLVED, That the House of Representatives honor the  
4 outstanding accomplishments achieved by the Center for Rural  
5 Pennsylvania; and be it further

6       RESOLVED, That the Center be applauded for the significant  
7 research performed by it; and be it further

8       RESOLVED, That the Center be congratulated on 25 years of  
9 outstanding service to the General Assembly and the  
10 Commonwealth's citizenry.