

THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF PENNSYLVANIA

# SENATE RESOLUTION

No. 343 Session of  
2012

INTRODUCED BY YAW, WOZNIAK, PILEGGI, VOGEL, GORDNER, FONTANA,  
FARNESE, TARTAGLIONE, BAKER, STACK, BROWNE, M. WHITE,  
ALLOWAY, BRUBAKER, BREWSTER, KASUNIC, DINNIMAN, GREENLEAF,  
EARLL, ARGALL, ERICKSON, RAFFERTY, D. WHITE AND SOLOBAY,  
OCTOBER 1, 2012

INTRODUCED AND ADOPTED, OCTOBER 1, 2012

## 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

1 understand the diversity of rural Pennsylvania; and

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

30 WHEREAS, The Center has earned a national reputation for its

1 work and accomplishments; and

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

4 RESOLVED, That the Senate honor the outstanding  
5 accomplishments achieved by the Center for Rural Pennsylvania;  
6 and be it further

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

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