
THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF PENNSYLVANIA

HOUSE RESOLUTION

No. 165 Session of
2013

INTRODUCED BY MIRANDA, BROWNLEE, COHEN, READSHAW, ROZZI,
J. HARRIS, YOUNGBLOOD, MILLARD, K. BOYLE, WHEATLEY, KIM,
V. BROWN, DONATUCCI, CALTAGIRONE, PARKER, KINSEY, DiGIROLAMO,
SWANGER, MAJOR, KORTZ, KULA, HENNESSEY, BISHOP, PAINTER, CRUZ
AND SCHLOSSBERG, MARCH 15, 2013

INTRODUCED AS NONCONTROVERSIAL RESOLUTION UNDER RULE 35,
MARCH 15, 2013

A RESOLUTION

1 Recognizing the achievements of the late Senator Roxanne Jones
2 and her exemplary record of service to her community and her
3 Commonwealth.

4 WHEREAS, Ms. Roxanne Jones was the first African-American
5 woman to represent a legislative district of this Commonwealth;
6 and

7 WHEREAS, In the mid-1960s, after separating from her husband,
8 Ms. Jones moved with her two daughters into public housing and
9 this experience transformed her into an unwavering champion of
10 the poor; and

11 WHEREAS, Ms. Jones worked with the Philadelphia Opportunities
12 Industrialization Center before finding her podium at the
13 Philadelphia Welfare Rights Organization; and

14 WHEREAS, Ms. Jones marched against the Vietnam Conflict and
15 worked to register voters; and

16 WHEREAS, Ms. Jones was elected to the Senate in 1984 and was

1 reelected in 1988 and 1992; and

2 WHEREAS, Senator Jones fought for change and sponsored
3 legislation in 1987 that created the successful New Directions
4 Job Training Program that helped move welfare recipients to
5 work; and

6 WHEREAS, Senator Jones sponsored a proposal that taught
7 minority high school students entrepreneurial and business
8 skills and led campaigns to rid Philadelphia of lead paint,
9 which threatened the health of poor children; and

10 WHEREAS, As an advocate for the poor in Harrisburg, Senator
11 Jones stayed connected to the constituency of poor women and
12 children that once included her by living modestly in the heart
13 of her impoverished district and finding food, clothing and jobs
14 for constituents; and

15 WHEREAS, Senator Jones was the voice in the Senate for
16 residents of many of North Philadelphia's most impoverished
17 neighborhoods until her sudden death on May 19, 1996; and

18 WHEREAS, The recognition of March as "National Women's
19 History Month" highlights the numerous contributions of women
20 across this Commonwealth and the nation who helped create a more
21 fair and just society for all people; and

22 WHEREAS, Senator Jones' exemplary record of service in the
23 Senate helped to create a more fair and just society for all
24 people of this Commonwealth; therefore be it

25 RESOLVED, That the House of Representatives recognize the
26 achievements of the late Senator Roxanne Jones and her exemplary
27 record of service to her community and her Commonwealth.