
THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF PENNSYLVANIA

HOUSE RESOLUTION

No. 181 Session of
2013

INTRODUCED BY PASHINSKI, MULLERY, KNOWLES, O'NEILL, YOUNGBLOOD,
HARKINS, MCGEEHAN, W. KELLER, MICOZZIE, MILLARD, HENNESSEY,
KAVULICH, ROZZI, KINSEY, EVERETT, VEREB, BIZZARRO, HARHART,
ROSS, B. BOYLE, O'BRIEN, DeLUCA, FABRIZIO, MAJOR, READSHAW,
SAINATO, DENLINGER, MAHONEY, CLYMER, COHEN, MARSICO, FLECK,
KORTZ, PAINTER, D. COSTA, WATSON, FRANKEL, P. DALEY, GABLER,
GILLEN, QUINN, PARKER, MCCARTER, GOODMAN AND MATZIE,
MARCH 21, 2013

INTRODUCED AS NONCONTROVERSIAL RESOLUTION UNDER RULE 35,
MARCH 21, 2013

A RESOLUTION

1 Honoring the life and contributions of Thaddeus Kosciuszko,
2 Polish engineer and hero of the American Revolution.

3 WHEREAS, Thaddeus Kosciuszko was born in Poland on February
4 4, 1746; and

5 WHEREAS, Kosciuszko studied engineering prior to moving to
6 America in 1776 and was later commissioned as Colonel of
7 Engineers by the Continental Congress; and

8 WHEREAS, After being commissioned, Kosciuszko began his
9 service of fortifying battle sites, many of which became turning
10 points in America's fight for independence against the British;
11 and

12 WHEREAS, While in Philadelphia in 1776, Kosciuszko read the
13 Declaration of Independence and was deeply moved; and

14 WHEREAS, When Kosciuszko discovered that Thomas Jefferson was

1 responsible for drafting the Declaration, he felt compelled to
2 meet him and traveled to Virginia to do so; and

3 WHEREAS, After meeting, Kosciuszko and Jefferson became the
4 best of friends; and

5 WHEREAS, In war, Kosciuszko helped with fortifications at the
6 Philadelphia waterfront at Fort Mercer and also along the Hudson
7 and planned the defense for Saratoga, which became known as one
8 of military history's most famous struggles for independence and
9 proved to be a turning point in the war; and

10 WHEREAS, Kosciuszko was made chief engineer of West Point,
11 New York, which was unable to be penetrated by the British Army;
12 and

13 WHEREAS, Kosciuszko is credited with suggesting to General
14 George Washington that West Point become a military academy; and

15 WHEREAS, Thomas Jefferson wrote of Kosciuszko and described
16 him "as pure a son of liberty as I have ever known"; and

17 WHEREAS, Prior to leaving America in 1798 to return to his
18 homeland, Kosciuszko requested that the money from his estate be
19 used to buy freedom for slaves in order to help educate them and
20 provide them with land and liberty; and

21 WHEREAS, Kosciuszko died at 72 years of age on October 15,
22 1817; therefore be it

23 RESOLVED, That the House of Representatives honor the life
24 and contributions of Thaddeus Kosciuszko, Polish engineer and
25 hero of the American Revolution.