
THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF PENNSYLVANIA

HOUSE RESOLUTION

No. 307 Session of
2013

INTRODUCED BY ADOLPH, MICOZZIE, MARSICO, KILLION, HACKETT,
BARRAR, MICCARELLI, REED, MCNEILL, HARKINS, KOTIK,
CALTAGIRONE, GRELL, GODSHALL, VEREB, COHEN, KORTZ, PICKETT,
KAUFFMAN, DeLUCA, SONNEY, O'BRIEN, B. BOYLE, NEILSON, RAPP,
W. KELLER, MUSTIO, S. H. SMITH, READSHAW, RAVENSTAHL,
BIZZARRO, BOBACK, TURZAI, YOUNGBLOOD, KAVULICH, PAYNE, ROSS,
BROWNLEE, PARKER, EVERETT, P. DALEY, KIM, HARHAI, CARROLL,
HARHART, MARKOSEK, STERN, KNOWLES, MILLARD, HAGGERTY, JAMES,
GINGRICH, DiGIROLAMO, COX, AUMENT, HAHN, MILNE, PASHINSKI,
CAUSER, GIBBONS AND DONATUCCI, MAY 7, 2013

INTRODUCED AS NONCONTROVERSIAL RESOLUTION UNDER RULE 35,
MAY 7, 2013

A RESOLUTION

1 Honoring the life and service of Bishop Joseph McFadden and
2 expressing condolences on his death.

3 WHEREAS, Bishop Joseph P. McFadden was born in Philadelphia
4 on May 22, 1947, to Thomas and Ellen McFadden; and

5 WHEREAS, After graduating from Thomas More High School for
6 Boys in 1965 as class valedictorian, Bishop McFadden attended
7 Saint Joseph University where he majored in political science
8 and graduated in 1969; and

9 WHEREAS, Throughout high school and college, Bishop McFadden
10 was active on the basketball team, first as a player and then,
11 by the end of his time at Saint Joseph University, as a coach
12 for his former high school; and

13 WHEREAS, In 1976, Bishop McFadden entered Saint Charles

1 Borromeo Seminary, where he earned his master's of divinity
2 degree and graduated summa cum laude, and in 1981 he was
3 ordained a priest assigned to the Parochial Vicar at St.
4 Laurence Parish in Highland Park; and

5 WHEREAS, In 1993, then Monsignor McFadden was named by
6 Cardinal Bevilacqua to be the first president of Cardinal O'Hara
7 High School in Springfield and, during his tenure, the school's
8 enrollment increased from 1,540 to 2,000 and he helped to
9 initiate the innovative "Laptops for Learning" program; and

10 WHEREAS, In 2001, then Monsignor McFadden was appointed
11 pastor of St. Joseph Parish in Downingtown, where he ministered
12 until 2004; and

13 WHEREAS, In 2004, he was ordained to the Episcopacy by
14 Cardinal Justin Rigali and became the auxiliary bishop of the
15 Archdiocese of Philadelphia, where his duties included oversight
16 of Catholic education; and

17 WHEREAS, On August 18, 2010, Bishop McFadden became the 10th
18 bishop of the Diocese of Harrisburg, which includes 15 counties
19 in central Pennsylvania and includes more than 244,000 members;
20 and

21 WHEREAS, Bishop McFadden served as honorary chaplain on St.
22 Patrick's Day for the House of Representatives for over ten
23 years; and

24 WHEREAS, On Thursday, May 2, 2013, Bishop McFadden was
25 attending a meeting of the Catholic Bishops of Pennsylvania in
26 Philadelphia when he became ill and died at a hospital; and

27 WHEREAS, His sudden death came as a shock to those who knew
28 him and knew of him, and his passing is an immeasurable loss to
29 the Diocese of Harrisburg; therefore be it

30 RESOLVED, That the House of Representatives honor the life

1 and service of Bishop Joseph P. McFadden and extend condolences
2 on his death.