
THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF PENNSYLVANIA

HOUSE RESOLUTION

No. 359 Session of
2013

INTRODUCED BY FARINA, YOUNGBLOOD, P. DALEY, O'NEILL,
CALTAGIRONE, MICOZZIE, VEREB, SONNEY, HENNESSEY, DIGIROLAMO,
COHEN, NEILSON, KIM, BROOKS, MCNEILL, SAINATO, COX, KIRKLAND,
DAVIS, PAINTER, BIZZARRO, LONGIETTI, BARRAR, MILLARD,
MULLERY, PAYNE, MIRABITO, SCHLOSSBERG, V. BROWN, HAGGERTY,
BENNINGHOFF, ROSS, D. MILLER, R. MILLER, SANKEY, SWANGER,
O'BRIEN, WATSON, LUCAS, MAHONEY, C. HARRIS, EVERETT AND
WHITE, JUNE 10, 2013

INTRODUCED AS NONCONTROVERSIAL RESOLUTION UNDER RULE 35,
JUNE 10, 2013

A RESOLUTION

1 Recognizing the late John Morelli, the longest-standing Sergeant
2 of the Guard at the Tomb of the Unknown Soldier at Arlington
3 National Cemetery, and observing June 14, 2013, as "John J.
4 Morelli Day" and "Tomb Honor Guard Day" in Pennsylvania.

5 WHEREAS, John J. Morelli lived from January 18, 1918, until
6 December 15, 1996; and

7 WHEREAS, The native of Olyphant in Lackawanna County served
8 in the United States Armed Forces during the Korean War; and

9 WHEREAS, Mr. Morelli was a recipient of the Bronze Star; and

10 WHEREAS, Mr. Morelli became known for serving as the longest-
11 standing Sergeant of the Guard at the Tomb of the Unknown
12 Soldier at Arlington National Cemetery; and

13 WHEREAS, Tomb guards are handpicked and rigorously trained;

14 and

15 WHEREAS, Tomb guards serve as part of the 3rd United States

1 Infantry Regiment, otherwise known as "The Old Guard," the
2 oldest, active infantry unit in the military in service to the
3 United States since 1784; and

4 WHEREAS, Mr. Morelli received the Tomb Honor Guard Badge, the
5 second least-awarded medal in the United States Army, which
6 features the three figures of Peace, Victory and Valor; and

7 WHEREAS, Upon his passing, Mr. Morelli was interred in
8 Section 17 of Arlington National Cemetery, among many of his
9 other tomb guard compatriots; and

10 WHEREAS, On June 14, 2013, members of the Dickson City Honor
11 Guard, the Raymond-Henry American Legion Post 327 of Olyphant,
12 the Veterans of Foreign Wars Post 7251 of Throop, the Disabled
13 American Veterans of Dickson City Chapter 11 and the Marine
14 Corps League of Scranton will sponsor a memorial ceremony at the
15 Olyphant Train Station to honor the service, commitment,
16 dedication and valor of John J. Morelli; therefore be it

17 RESOLVED, That the House of Representatives join in
18 recognizing John J. Morelli for his service in the United States
19 Army, for his dedication and valor involved in receiving the
20 Bronze Star, for his service as the longest-standing Sergeant of
21 the Guard at the Tomb of the Unknown Soldier and for being a
22 recipient of the Tomb Honor Guard Badge; and be it further

23 RESOLVED, That the House of Representatives observe June 14,
24 2013, as "John J. Morelli Day" and "Tomb Honor Guard Day" in
25 Pennsylvania to further recognize Mr. Morelli's service and the
26 service of all those like him who have committed to maintaining
27 the highest standards and traditions of the United States Army
28 and the nation while keeping a constant vigil at the National
29 Shrine of the Tomb of the Unknown Soldier and whose special duty
30 is to prevent any desecration or disrespect directed toward the

1 tomb; and be it further

2 RESOLVED, That a copy of this resolution be presented at the
3 memorial ceremony on June 14, 2013.