
THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF PENNSYLVANIA

HOUSE RESOLUTION

No. 401 Session of
2013

INTRODUCED BY HARHAI, COHEN, KOTIK, MILLARD, MIRABITO,
CALTAGIRONE, HENNESSEY, READSHAW, V. BROWN, NEILSON, DAVIS,
DIGIROLAMO, KIM, D. MILLER, MAHONEY, YOUNGBLOOD, QUINN,
MARSICO, ROCK, GINGRICH, SAINATO, KIRKLAND, PAINTER, STURLA,
D. COSTA AND ROEBUCK, JUNE 28, 2013

INTRODUCED AS NONCONTROVERSIAL RESOLUTION UNDER RULE 35,
JUNE 28, 2013

A RESOLUTION

1 Congratulating the Philomathean Society of the University of
2 Pennsylvania, the nation's oldest continuous collegiate
3 literary society, on its 200th anniversary on October 2,
4 2013, and extending best wishes to the society for a
5 successful and productive future.

6 WHEREAS, The Philomathean Society of the University of
7 Pennsylvania was founded on October 2, 1813, and strives to
8 uphold its mission of "increasing the learning of the members
9 and the academic prestige of the University"; and

10 WHEREAS, The society exhibited remarkable intellectual
11 capacity and ambition when three undergraduate members published
12 the first accurate translation of the Rosetta Stone in 1858; and

13 WHEREAS, The society has achieved an unparalleled record of
14 service to the University of Pennsylvania and the public by
15 sponsoring numerous scholarly publications, lectures, panel
16 discussions and afternoon teas with prominent professors, as
17 well as poetry readings, film screenings, dramatic performances,

1 art shows, debates, special classes and annual orations by
2 renowned public intellectuals, all of which are free and open to
3 the public; and

4 WHEREAS, The society has trained generations of our nation's
5 leaders, including three United States Senators, seven United
6 States Representatives, two Cabinet officers, three ambassadors,
7 two governors, six generals and enumerable local legislators,
8 judges, lawyers, doctors, authors, editors, scientists,
9 ministers and educators, through the exercises it provides
10 members in writing, speaking and thinking; and

11 WHEREAS, It is a testimony to the dedication and wisdom of
12 the students of the University of Pennsylvania that they have
13 supported the society over two centuries when only a handful of
14 the great literary societies that were once represented at
15 nearly every American campus have survived; therefore be it

16 RESOLVED, That the House of Representatives congratulate the
17 Philomathean Society of the University of Pennsylvania, the
18 nation's oldest continuous collegiate literary society, on its
19 200th anniversary on October 2, 2013, and extend best wishes to
20 the society for a successful and productive future.