

THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF PENNSYLVANIA

# HOUSE RESOLUTION

No. 690 Session of 2014

INTRODUCED BY METCALFE, BARRAR, B. BOYLE, K. BOYLE, DUNBAR,  
FLYNN, GALLOWAY, GIBBONS, HENNESSEY, KILLION, KIRKLAND,  
KOTIK, MALONEY, MULLERY, O'BRIEN, SACCONI, THOMAS, KORTZ,  
D. COSTA AND RAVENSTAHL, MARCH 10, 2014

REFERRED TO COMMITTEE ON STATE GOVERNMENT, MARCH 10, 2014

## A RESOLUTION

1 Expressing strong support for the policies and peaceful  
2 democratic processes set forth in the Good Friday Agreement  
3 that allow for the reunification of Ireland and its people.

4 WHEREAS, Ireland and its people are an ancient and distinct  
5 nation; and

6 WHEREAS, Ireland is an island nation comprised of 32  
7 counties, which, in the 1920s, was artificially divided into a  
8 26-county region, the Irish Republic, and a 6-county unit,  
9 Northern Ireland; and

10 WHEREAS, This division was designed to be a temporary answer  
11 to issues that arose in the 1920s, including the threat of civil  
12 war; and

13 WHEREAS, As our Declaration of Independence proclaims,  
14 governments derive "their just powers from the consent of the  
15 governed"; and

16 WHEREAS, Human and civic rights are best guaranteed by the  
17 people's freely instituted, duly elected and independent

1 government and thus the Irish people have a right and  
2 responsibility to govern themselves; and

3 WHEREAS, The Good Friday Agreement affirms, for the people of  
4 the Irish Republic and Northern Ireland, the right to pursue, in  
5 a democratic manner, national and political aspirations and the  
6 right to equal opportunity in all social and economic activity;  
7 and

8 WHEREAS, The historic Good Friday Agreement, negotiated with  
9 American support and ratified by the Irish and English  
10 governments, as well as a vote of the entire island of Ireland,  
11 includes provisions for achieving a united Ireland through  
12 purely democratic and peaceful means; and

13 WHEREAS, The United States and the Commonwealth of  
14 Pennsylvania have greatly benefited from the contributions of  
15 the sons and daughters of Ireland; therefore be it

16 RESOLVED, That the House of Representatives of the  
17 Commonwealth of Pennsylvania express its strong support for the  
18 policies and peaceful democratic processes set forth in the Good  
19 Friday Agreement that allow for the reunification of Ireland and  
20 its people; and be it further

21 RESOLVED, That a copy of this resolution be transmitted to  
22 the President and Vice President of the United States; the  
23 United States Secretary of State, the Governor of Pennsylvania  
24 and to all members of Congress from Pennsylvania; and be it  
25 further

26 RESOLVED, That a copy of this resolution be transmitted to  
27 the Ambassador for the Republic of Ireland and the Ambassador  
28 for the United Kingdom in Washington, DC.