
THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF PENNSYLVANIA

SENATE RESOLUTION

No. 150 Session of
2013

INTRODUCED BY WAUGH, TEPLITZ, ALLOWAY, ARGALL, BAKER, BLAKE, BOSCOLA, BREWSTER, BROWNE, BRUBAKER, CORMAN, COSTA, DINNIMAN, EICHELBERGER, ERICKSON, FARNESE, FERLO, FOLMER, FONTANA, GORDNER, GREENLEAF, HUGHES, HUTCHINSON, KASUNIC, KITCHEN, LEACH, McILHINNEY, MENSCH, PILEGGI, RAFFERTY, ROBBINS, SCARNATI, SCHWANK, SMITH, SMUCKER, SOLOBAY, STACK, TARTAGLIONE, TOMLINSON, VANCE, VOGEL, VULAKOVICH, WARD, WASHINGTON, WHITE, WILEY, WILLIAMS, WOZNIAK, YAW AND YUDICHAK, MAY 14, 2013

INTRODUCED AND ADOPTED, MAY 14, 2013

A RESOLUTION

1 Honoring the life of former Pennsylvania Governor George M.
2 Leader, who died on May 9, 2013.

3 WHEREAS, George Michael Leader, 36th Governor of the
4 Commonwealth of Pennsylvania, originally from York, York County,
5 and later of Hershey, Dauphin County, died on May 9, 2013, at 95
6 years of age following a brief illness; and

7 WHEREAS, Governor Leader was born on January 17, 1918, grew
8 up on his parents' York County poultry farm and graduated from
9 William Penn Senior High School in York; and

10 WHEREAS, Governor Leader furthered his education with an
11 undergraduate degree from the University of Pennsylvania and an
12 honorary master of governmental administration degree from the
13 Fels Institute at the University of Pennsylvania; and

14 WHEREAS, Governor Leader began his public service in the

1 United States Navy during World War II as a Supply Corps Officer
2 on the U.S.S. Randolph; and

3 WHEREAS, Governor Leader was first elected to public office
4 in 1950 as State Senator for the 28th Senatorial District, a
5 position he served in for four years before embarking on his
6 successful 1954 Gubernatorial election; and

7 WHEREAS, Governor Leader was sworn in as the Commonwealth's
8 36th Governor on January 18, 1955, a day after his 37th
9 birthday, becoming the second youngest Pennsylvanian to serve as
10 Governor; and

11 WHEREAS, Governor Leader focused his efforts on improving the
12 Commonwealth's mental health facilities, protecting civil rights
13 for minorities, increasing funding for education, making special
14 education a requirement in Pennsylvania schools, reforming
15 government and implementing economic development programs; and

16 WHEREAS, Governor Leader's commitment to Pennsylvania and its
17 citizens continued well beyond his years as an elected official,
18 by virtue of his founding of several senior living facilities,
19 including Country Meadows and Providence Place; and

20 WHEREAS, Governor Leader remained a steadfast community
21 servant until his death, providing guidance to his gubernatorial
22 successors on State matters and volunteering with organizations
23 for the betterment of society, including those with a focus on
24 prison reform and international efforts in Ghana; and

25 WHEREAS, Governor Leader was the son of the late Guy and
26 Beulah Leader, the husband of the late Mary Jane (Strickler)
27 Leader, whom he married in 1939, and the father of the late Fred
28 Leader; and

29 WHEREAS, Governor Leader is survived by son, George Michael
30 Leader, III, and his wife, Karen; daughter, Jane Leader Janeczek

1 and her husband, Ted; son, David Charles Leader and his wife
2 Liesa; daughter-in-law, Anne Gardner Leader, widow of his son,
3 Fred; brother Henry B. Leader; 12 grandchildren and two great-
4 grandsons; and

5 WHEREAS, A funeral service is to be held on Thursday, May 16,
6 2013, in the Derry Presbyterian Church, Hershey, to be followed
7 by a private burial service; and

8 WHEREAS, Governor George M. Leader served his Commonwealth
9 and community with the utmost integrity and dedication;
10 therefore be it

11 RESOLVED, That the Senate honor the life of Governor George
12 Michael Leader, who died on May 9, 2013.