
THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF PENNSYLVANIA

HOUSE RESOLUTION

No. 317 Session of
2015

INTRODUCED BY MARKOSEK, TURZAI AND MCGINNIS, MAY 5, 2015

INTRODUCED AS NONCONTROVERSIAL RESOLUTION UNDER RULE 35,
MAY 5, 2015

A RESOLUTION

1 Honoring the life and service of the Reverend Theodore M.
2 Hesburgh, who led the University of Notre Dame as university
3 president, and extending condolences to those whose lives
4 were positively impacted by him.

5 WHEREAS, The Reverend Theodore M. Hesburgh was born May 25,
6 1917, in Syracuse, New York, to Anne Marie and Theodore Bernard
7 Hesburgh; and

8 WHEREAS, Father Hesburgh served as the president of the
9 University of Notre Dame for 35 years from 1952 until 1987,
10 making him the longest-tenured university president in the
11 United States; and

12 WHEREAS, Father Hesburgh passed away February 26, 2015, at 97
13 years of age at Holy Cross House on the campus of the
14 university; and

15 WHEREAS, During his tenure, the university doubled its
16 enrollment, significantly increased student aid and faculty
17 salaries, opened its doors to female students and transformed
18 from a small Catholic college into the world's preeminent
19 Catholic university; and

1 WHEREAS, Father Hesburgh's impact extended far beyond the
2 university and included significant advocacy in a wide array of
3 complex and controversial issues, including civil rights,
4 poverty and human rights, and challenged Catholic universities
5 to preserve their academic freedom and become "the critical,
6 reflective intelligence of the Church"; and

7 WHEREAS, As a strong advocate in the civil rights movement,
8 Father Hesburgh served on the Civil Rights Commission and
9 endorsed the Civil Rights Act at a rally with the Reverend
10 Martin Luther King, Jr., in July 1964, after others had declined
11 to attend; and

12 WHEREAS, Father Hesburgh served as an advisor to
13 international leaders, four popes and nine presidents; and

14 WHEREAS, Father Hesburgh received numerous appointments, 150
15 honorary degrees, and many awards, including the Presidential
16 Medal of Freedom and the Congressional Gold Medal, the highest
17 civilian awards of the United States; and

18 WHEREAS, Father Hesburgh's life was honored and he was laid
19 to rest in the Holy Cross Community Cemetery at Notre Dame on
20 March 4, 2015; therefore be it

21 RESOLVED, That the House of Representatives honor the life
22 and service of the Reverend Theodore M. Hesburgh, who devoted
23 his life to the education of others and worked to ensure social
24 justice, and extend its condolences to those whose lives were
25 positively impacted by him; and be it further

26 RESOLVED, That a copy of this resolution be transmitted to
27 Reverend John I. Jenkins, C.S.C., University President, at 400
28 Main Building, Notre Dame, IN 46556.