

THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF PENNSYLVANIA

HOUSE RESOLUTION

No. 465 Session of 2015

INTRODUCED BY DEAN, HENNESSEY, KIRKLAND, COHEN, BISHOP, DeLUCA, DAVIS, BAKER, DRISCOLL, GREINER, LONGIETTI, KINSEY, SNYDER, BULLOCK, FREEMAN, MACKENZIE, SAMUELSON, CALTAGIRONE, VEREB, SCHLOSSBERG, DiGIROLAMO, STAATS, V. BROWN, D. MILLER, HAHN, MATZIE, QUIGLEY, GERGELY, O'BRIEN, BOBACK, WHEELAND, WARD, MURT, BIZZARRO, McNEILL, MILLARD, J. HARRIS, HARKINS, JAMES, DONATUCCI, GINGRICH, READSHAW, SONNEY, DUSH, D. PARKER, KLUNK, W. KELLER, MENTZER, GIBBONS, ACOSTA, WATSON, JOZWIAK, MARSICO, GODSHALL, PICKETT, WHITE, BARBIN, TAYLOR, P. COSTA, YOUNGBLOOD, MULLERY, MCCLINTON, DAVIDSON, QUINN, P. DALEY, B. MILLER, D. COSTA, MAJOR, HARHAI, MARKOSEK, FARINA, GROVE, CORBIN, CAUSER, REGAN, HARPER, McCARTER, BENNINGHOFF, KORTZ, SAYLOR, PASHINSKI, ADOLPH, DEASY, EVANS, PAYNE, SCHWEYER, PHILLIPS-HILL, SCHREIBER, MAHONEY, BURNS, ROSS, RAVENSTAHL AND GOODMAN, SEPTEMBER 18, 2015

INTRODUCED AS NONCONTROVERSIAL RESOLUTION UNDER RULE 35, SEPTEMBER 18, 2015

A RESOLUTION

1 Celebrating the 2015 World Meeting of Families in Philadelphia
2 and Pope Francis' inaugural visit to the United States.

3 WHEREAS, Pope Francis will be visiting the United States for
4 the first time from September 22 through 27, 2015; and

5 WHEREAS, During this time, the Pope will address a joint
6 session of Congress in Washington, DC, as well as the General
7 Assembly of the United Nations in New York City; and

8 WHEREAS, However, the principal reason for his visit is to
9 attend the World Meeting of Families in Philadelphia; and

10 WHEREAS, The World Meeting of Families is a week-long
11 international event of prayer, catechesis and celebration that

draws participants from around the world; and

WHEREAS, The event consists of a Theological Adult Congress and concurrent Youth Congress, followed by a Festival of Families and Papal Mass; and

WHEREAS, The Festival of Families, which includes different types of cultural and musical performances, will be attended by Pope Francis; and

WHEREAS, For Pope Francis, strengthening family life is essential to not only reinforcing the teachings and practices of Catholicism, but to the moral framework of society; and

WHEREAS, Pope Francis continues to be an advocate for the poor and hopes to further spread his message of rejecting what he has called the "throwaway culture," reminding all individuals, regardless of their religious affiliation, to work toward finding solutions to issues, such as poverty, which affect every nation; and

WHEREAS, Pope Francis has led the Catholic Church in a new direction, confronting several global issues in addition to poverty, such as economic injustice, education, workers' rights, sustainable agriculture and the health of the global environment; and

WHEREAS, The new perspective that Pope Francis has brought to the Papacy has reinvigorated the public's perception of the Pope and has infused new energy into the Catholic Church; and

WHEREAS, Pope Francis has encouraged all individuals to restore cultures that promote the bond of family and to stand with less fortunate individuals who are in need and have been relegated to the margins of society; therefore be it

RESOLVED, That the House of Representatives celebrate the 2015 World Meeting of Families in Philadelphia and Pope Francis'

1 inaugural visit to the United States.