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THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF PENNSYLVANIA

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HOUSE RESOLUTION

No. 597 Session of  
2015

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INTRODUCED BY PETRI, BAKER, BARRAR, BENNINGHOFF, BLOOM, BOBACK, R. BROWN, BURNS, D. COSTA, COX, SCHLEGEL CULVER, P. DALEY, DAY, DIAMOND, DUSH, FEE, GIBBONS, GINGRICH, GOODMAN, HANNA, HARHAI, HARHART, HARPER, A. HARRIS, PHILLIPS-HILL, JAMES, JOZWIAK, KAUFFMAN, KILLION, KLUNK, KORTZ, KRIEGER, LONGIETTI, MACKENZIE, MAHONEY, MASSER, MILLARD, B. MILLER, MUSTIO, ORTITAY, PAYNE, PETRARCA, READSHAW, ROTHMAN, SACCONI, SAINATO, SAYLOR, SNYDER, SONNEY, STAATS, STEPHENS, TOEPEL, TOPPER, GROVE, WATSON, RAPP, TALLMAN AND ZIMMERMAN, NOVEMBER 30, 2015

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REFERRED TO COMMITTEE ON STATE GOVERNMENT, NOVEMBER 30, 2015

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A RESOLUTION

1 Urging the Governor to reject resettlement of Syrian refugees in  
2 this Commonwealth and the President of the United States to  
3 direct the Department of Homeland Security to review its  
4 security procedures for vetting refugees and to send a report  
5 detailing the increased measures to the states that are under  
6 consideration to receive refugees.

7 WHEREAS, The Federal Government has indicated that 10,000  
8 Syrian refugees will be accepted over the next year; and

9 WHEREAS, This Commonwealth has an abundant and successful  
10 history of embracing immigrants; and

11 WHEREAS, However, in light of the terror attacks that  
12 occurred in Paris on November 13, 2015, and the ISIS video  
13 threatening a similar attack on Washington DC, the Commonwealth  
14 must reject the placement of Syrian refugees within this  
15 Commonwealth until the Federal Government establishes increased  
16 security procedures to screen refugees; and

1       WHEREAS, Protecting the safety of the residents of this  
2 Commonwealth must take precedence; and

3       WHEREAS, Increased security measures are required following  
4 the extremists' attacks in Paris in order to protect the  
5 security, safety and basic freedoms of the residents of this  
6 Commonwealth; and

7       WHEREAS, The terrorist attacks in Paris require a  
8 reassessment of the guidelines for admitting individuals into  
9 this Commonwealth from a war zone; therefore be it

10       RESOLVED, That the House of Representatives of the  
11 Commonwealth of Pennsylvania urge the Governor to reject  
12 resettlement of Syrian refugees in this Commonwealth and the  
13 President of the United States to direct the Department of  
14 Homeland Security to review its security procedures for vetting  
15 refugees and to send a report detailing the increased measures  
16 to the states that are under consideration to receive refugees;  
17 and be it further

18       RESOLVED, That copies of this resolution be transmitted to  
19 the President of the United States, the Department of Homeland  
20 Security and each member of Congress from Pennsylvania.