

THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF PENNSYLVANIA

HOUSE RESOLUTION

No. 911 Session of 2015

INTRODUCED BY ACOSTA, DONATUCCI, KIRKLAND, READSHAW, BIZZARRO, SANTARSIERO, ROZZI, VEREB, BAKER, MACKENZIE, WHEELAND, VITALI, WATSON, SCHLOSSBERG, V. BROWN, COHEN, KINSEY, ROSS, MARSICO, SAINATO, MURT, WARD, ELLIS, ROTHMAN, SONNEY, DUSH, MILLARD, THOMAS, COX, DAVIS, COOK-ARTIS, LONGIETTI, D. COSTA, REGAN, SCHLEGEL CULVER, SCHREIBER, DRISCOLL, J. HARRIS, DIGIROLAMO, D. MILLER, CONKLIN, PAYNE, KAVULICH, FREEMAN, HAHN, BURNS, MENTZER, RAPP, CALTAGIRONE, YOUNGBLOOD, STURLA, BULLOCK, McCARTER, GROVE, PHILLIPS-HILL, DEASY, HENNESSEY, MAHONEY, GILLEN, JOZWIAK, MAJOR AND GINGRICH, JUNE 2, 2016

INTRODUCED AS NONCONTROVERSIAL RESOLUTION UNDER RULE 35, JUNE 2, 2016

A RESOLUTION

1 Recognizing 2016 as the "Year of the Veteran in Pennsylvania" to
2 highlight and celebrate the accomplishments of veterans as
3 well as to continue to raise public awareness of issues
4 related to veterans and the ongoing initiatives to serve
5 those who have served their country.

6 WHEREAS, Philadelphia is the birthplace of the United States
7 Army, United States Navy and United States Marine Corps,
8 establishing a link between our city and those who have served
9 our country dating back to pre-Revolutionary War times; and

10 WHEREAS, According to the Pennsylvania Department of Military
11 and Veterans Affairs, our active duty and retired military
12 personnel have an economic impact of \$1.5 billion in our
13 communities across this Commonwealth; and

14 WHEREAS, Veterans of past wars and peace time as well as
15 those returning from overseas military duty to this Commonwealth

1 are part of the foundation of our community; and

2 WHEREAS, Veterans have served our country in the armed forces
3 and put themselves in harm's way, without regard for their
4 personal safety, to protect us and preserve our liberties; and

5 WHEREAS, There are approximately 1 million veterans and their
6 families living in this Commonwealth with service spanning World
7 War II to the present, men and women of all races, religions,
8 ethnicity, gender identifications and physical abilities; and

9 WHEREAS, Veterans offer our Commonwealth a talented and
10 experienced pool of leaders, workers and neighbors; and

11 WHEREAS, Many veterans face challenges living to their
12 fullest potential because of the injuries, both mental and
13 physical, suffered during their service; and

14 WHEREAS, The Pennsylvania Department of Military and Veterans
15 Affairs provides resources and assistance to this Commonwealth's
16 military veterans and their families, providing quality care for
17 aging and disabled veterans; and

18 WHEREAS, The Veterans' Trust Fund, benefiting veterans and
19 their families, has grown significantly thanks to generous
20 donations from residents of this Commonwealth who voluntarily
21 make a \$3 donation when applying for or renewing their driver's
22 license or renewing a motor vehicle registration; and

23 WHEREAS, The proceeds from the sale of the "Honoring our
24 Veterans" license plate have also contributed to the growth of
25 the Veterans' Trust Fund; and

26 WHEREAS, The Veterans' Trust Fund issues grants to Statewide
27 charitable organizations that assist veterans, veterans service
28 organizations and county directors of veterans affairs to assist
29 veterans in need of shelter and necessities of living; and

30 WHEREAS, Grants from the Veterans' Trust Fund may assist

1 veterans in obtaining Federal veterans benefits and pensions
2 earned by virtue of their service and sacrifice; and

3 WHEREAS, Philadelphia became the first city in America to
4 offer a tax credit to employers that hire returning veterans;
5 therefore be it

6 RESOLVED, That the House of Representatives recognize 2016 as
7 the "Year of the Veteran in Pennsylvania" to highlight and
8 celebrate the accomplishments of veterans as well as to continue
9 to raise public awareness of issues related to veterans and the
10 ongoing initiatives to serve those who have served their
11 country.