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THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF PENNSYLVANIA

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HOUSE RESOLUTION

No. 280 Session of  
2017

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INTRODUCED BY KINSEY, RABB, FREEMAN, HEFFLEY, CALTAGIRONE, MURT, BIZZARRO, SOLOMON, DONATUCCI, LONGIETTI, DRISCOLL, READSHAW, BULLOCK, J. HARRIS, QUIGLEY, BARRAR, SCHLOSSBERG, CHARLTON, DIGIROLAMO, THOMAS, WHEATLEY, MACKENZIE, JAMES, YOUNGBLOOD, PICKETT, McNEILL, SCHWEYER, WATSON, W. KELLER, WARD, MILLARD, D. COSTA, O'BRIEN, SAINATO, V. BROWN, TOEPEL, O'NEILL, B. MILLER, MARSHALL, HILL-EVANS, GROVE, PETRI, COX, RAPP, MARSICO, ROEBUCK, DeLUCA, GOODMAN, ROTHMAN, McCARTER, RYAN AND GILLEN, APRIL 24, 2017

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INTRODUCED AS NONCONTROVERSIAL RESOLUTION UNDER RULE 35,  
APRIL 24, 2017

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A RESOLUTION

1 Designating April 3, 2017, as "Tuskegee Airmen Day" in  
2 Pennsylvania.

3 WHEREAS, During World War I, African Americans were  
4 prohibited from serving as military pilots in the United States  
5 Armed Forces due to their race; and

6 WHEREAS, On April 3, 1939, in response to advocacy by civil  
7 rights leaders and the National Association for the Advancement  
8 of Colored People, the Congress of the United States approved  
9 funding designated for the training of African-American military  
10 pilots; and

11 WHEREAS, On March 22, 1941, the United States Army Air Corps  
12 99th Pursuit Squadron was activated to become the first African-  
13 American fighter squadron; and

14 WHEREAS, The members of the 99th Pursuit Squadron were the

1 first to be known as Tuskegee Airmen because they had received  
2 their initial flight training at Moton Field, a segregated air  
3 base in Tuskegee, Alabama; and

4 WHEREAS, African-American military pilots who trained at  
5 Moton Field in Tuskegee, Alabama, were known as Tuskegee Airmen,  
6 and would later form the famous 332nd Fighter Group, who were  
7 also known as the "Red Tails" due to the distinctive red  
8 markings on the tails of their aircraft; and

9 WHEREAS, Between 1941 and 1946, approximately 1,000 African-  
10 American military pilots were trained in Tuskegee, Alabama; and

11 WHEREAS, During World War II, the Tuskegee Airmen flew more  
12 than 15,000 sorties and lost 66 men in the line of duty, one of  
13 the lowest loss records of any escort fighter group; and

14 WHEREAS, The courage, dedication and service of the Tuskegee  
15 Airmen continues to inspire both military personnel and  
16 civilians of all backgrounds throughout this country; therefore  
17 be it

18 RESOLVED, That the House of Representatives designate April  
19 3, 2017, as "Tuskegee Airmen Day" in Pennsylvania.