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THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF PENNSYLVANIA

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HOUSE RESOLUTION

No. 836 Session of  
2018

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INTRODUCED BY GAINNEY, NEILSON, MUSTIO, SCHLOSSBERG, DONATUCCI,  
SIMS, KINSEY, MILLARD, READSHAW, DAVIS AND YOUNGBLOOD,  
APRIL 16, 2018

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INTRODUCED AS NONCONTROVERSIAL RESOLUTION UNDER RULE 35,  
APRIL 16, 2018

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A RESOLUTION

1 Recognizing the efforts and contributions that the architectural  
2 community and AIA Pennsylvania have made to celebrate and  
3 promote equity, diversity and inclusion within the profession  
4 of architecture and in workplaces throughout this  
5 Commonwealth.

6 WHEREAS, It is the statutory responsibility of the General  
7 Assembly to ensure that all Pennsylvanians have access to  
8 employment and economic opportunity, under reasonable  
9 regulations necessary to protect public safety, regardless of  
10 race, ethnicity, national origin, gender identity, age, sexual  
11 orientation, physical ability, religious belief or geographic  
12 location; and

13 WHEREAS, An equitable, diverse and inclusive workforce is  
14 necessary to ensure the continued growth and prosperity of  
15 Pennsylvania businesses and the economic health and well-being  
16 of the residents of this Commonwealth; and

17 WHEREAS, It is appropriate to recognize the ongoing efforts  
18 of the residents and professional organizations throughout this

1 Commonwealth that advance and promote the objectives of  
2 expanding equity, diversity and inclusion in the workplace; and

3 WHEREAS, The American Institute of Architects Pennsylvania  
4 (AIA Pennsylvania) was founded in 1909 and is a Statewide  
5 chapter of the American Institute of Architects (AIA); and

6 WHEREAS, AIA Pennsylvania represents nearly 3,000 members in  
7 Pennsylvania; and

8 WHEREAS, AIA represents more than 91,000 members nationally;  
9 and

10 WHEREAS, AIA Philadelphia's Women in Architecture provides an  
11 environment for women architects to enhance their professional  
12 development, networking and leadership skills; and

13 WHEREAS, William J. Bates, FAIA, was elected 2019 AIA  
14 President; and

15 WHEREAS, Among other endeavors, the AIA Pennsylvania  
16 Strategic Council examines systemic policies and practices  
17 within the profession; and

18 WHEREAS, Two National Organization of Minority Architects  
19 (NOMA) chapters operate in Philadelphia and Pittsburgh; and

20 WHEREAS, AIA and AIA Pennsylvania recognize that the  
21 profession of architecture has historically been challenged to  
22 attract and retain sufficient women and minorities to secure the  
23 benefits of an equitable, diverse and inclusive workforce; and

24 WHEREAS, AIA Pennsylvania and the greater Pennsylvania  
25 architecture community understand that an equitable, diverse and  
26 inclusive workplace allows architects to meet the needs of  
27 public and private clients more effectively and results in  
28 buildings that are more responsive to their communities; and

29 WHEREAS, AIA Pennsylvania has undertaken specific efforts to  
30 identify and encourage individuals who may have been previously

1 shut out of reasonable access to the profession of architecture,  
2 including the formation of the AIA Pennsylvania Strategic  
3 Council, the Paula Maynes Architect Registration Examinations  
4 (ARE) Grant for recent graduates pursuing licensure and the  
5 Firms Fostering Emerging Professionals development recognition,  
6 as well as the development of proposed legislation, such as 2017  
7 Senate Bill No. 459, which establishes the Pennsylvania  
8 Neighborhood Restoration Program; and

9 WHEREAS, AIA has also undertaken recent efforts to identify  
10 opportunities to improve equity, diversity and inclusion within  
11 the profession and to recognize individual members and firms for  
12 exemplary commitment to diversifying the profession, which  
13 include a Diversity Recognition Program, an Architects  
14 Foundation Diversity Advancement Scholarship and an annual  
15 Women's Leadership Summit; and

16 WHEREAS, AIA Pennsylvania and its local components, including  
17 AIA Bucks County, AIA Central PA, AIA Eastern PA, AIA Middle PA,  
18 AIA Northeastern PA, AIA Northwestern PA, AIA Philadelphia and  
19 AIA Pittsburgh, along with AIA, are committed to continuing  
20 their work to promote equity, diversity and inclusion throughout  
21 the architectural community and in the workplace; therefore be  
22 it

23 RESOLVED, That the House of Representatives recognize the  
24 efforts and contributions that the architectural community and  
25 AIA Pennsylvania have made to celebrate and promote equity,  
26 diversity and inclusion within the profession of architecture  
27 and in workplaces throughout this Commonwealth.