

THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF PENNSYLVANIA

HOUSE BILL

No. 572 Session of 2013

INTRODUCED BY FLECK, D. COSTA, CALTAGIRONE, HARHART, ROCK,
 FABRIZIO, C. HARRIS, KORTZ, CLYMER, MILLARD, MAJOR, HESS,
 BENNINGHOFF, DENLINGER, MURT AND PEIFER, FEBRUARY 8, 2013

REFERRED TO COMMITTEE ON STATE GOVERNMENT, FEBRUARY 8, 2013

AN ACT

1 Designating the Johnstown Traction Company's Car Number 355 as
 2 the official State trolley of the Commonwealth.

3 The General Assembly finds and declares as follows:

4 (1) At its peak in 1918, trolley transportation was the
 5 fifth largest industry in the United States. Although its era
 6 may appear to be over, the trolley has come full circle in
 7 many respects. Today trolleys still operate in several major
 8 cities in America. Heritage trolley lines, using trolleys
 9 patterned like older cars, have been built and now operate in
 10 some cities. In addition, several cities, which had trolleys
 11 but abandoned their systems years ago, are now building new
 12 systems.

13 (2) Johnstown Traction Company's Car Number 355 was
 14 built by St. Louis Car Company in 1925 as part of an order
 15 for five single-ended cars for the Johnstown Traction
 16 Company. Following several years of service, Johnstown
 17 Traction Company found a greater need for double-ended cars.

1 Accordingly, Car 355 of the 1925 order was modified in the
2 company shops for double-ended operation.

3 (3) Car 355 was the latest trolley to enter the Rockhill
4 Trolley Museum in Rockhill Furnace, Huntingdon County,
5 Pennsylvania. This trolley operated in Johnstown until 1960
6 and has undergone a restoration totaling more than \$300,000
7 and represents the typical 1920s era trolley found in many
8 cities and towns.

9 (4) Car 355 is the most completely restored car at the
10 Rockhill Trolley Museum. Few cars at any museum have ever
11 been rebuilt to the extent of Car 355. Restoration of Car 355
12 dramatically changed with the receipt of a Federal
13 Transportation Enhancement grant for much of the remaining
14 restoration work in 2000. The project was awarded to Lyons
15 Industries in Ebensburg, Cambria County, Pennsylvania.

16 (5) Car 355 helps fulfill the Rockhill Trolley Museum's
17 educational mission through the remarkable story it tells to
18 visitors. The car represents the apex, decline and rebirth of
19 trolley cars in Pennsylvania.

20 (6) Car 355 was one of a handful of older cars still
21 available for service on the last day of streetcar service in
22 Johnstown on June 11, 1960. Today it is one of only two cars
23 that remain of those that operated in Johnstown on the last
24 day of service.

25 The General Assembly of the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania
26 hereby enacts as follows:

27 Section 1. Official State trolley.

28 The Johnstown Traction Company's Car Number 355 is hereby
29 selected, designated and adopted as the official State trolley
30 of the Commonwealth.

1 Section 2. Effective date.

2 This act shall take effect immediately.