
THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF PENNSYLVANIA

HOUSE RESOLUTION

No. 217 Session of
2017

INTRODUCED BY WHEATLEY, READSHAW, COX, HENNESSEY, DERMODY,
DIGIROLAMO, DRISCOLL, J. HARRIS, V. BROWN, SCHWEYER,
BIZZARRO, DUSH, SONNEY, MILLARD, D. COSTA AND WARD,
APRIL 4, 2017

INTRODUCED AS NONCONTROVERSIAL RESOLUTION UNDER RULE 35,
APRIL 4, 2017

A RESOLUTION

1 Honoring the life and accomplishments of Dr. Thomas Starzl.

2 WHEREAS, Dr. Thomas Starzl was born on March 11, 1926, in
3 LeMars, Iowa; and

4 WHEREAS, Dr. Starzl attended Westminster College in Fulton,
5 Missouri, where he earned a bachelor's degree in biology; and

6 WHEREAS, In 1950, Dr. Starzl earned a master's degree in
7 anatomy from Northwestern University Medical School in Chicago;
8 and

9 WHEREAS, In 1952, Dr. Starzl earned a doctoral degree in
10 neurophysiology and a medical degree with distinction from
11 Northwestern University Medical School in Chicago; and

12 WHEREAS, Following his postgraduate work at Johns Hopkins
13 Hospital in Baltimore, Maryland, Dr. Starzl pursued his interest
14 in surgery and research with residencies at Johns Hopkins, the
15 University of Miami and the Veterans Administration Research
16 Hospital in Chicago; and

1 WHEREAS, Dr. Starzl was a Markle Scholar in Medical Science,
2 which is a distinguished honor bestowed annually to a small
3 group of exceptionally promising young physicians in academic
4 medicine; and

5 WHEREAS, Dr. Starzl served on the faculty of Northwestern
6 University from 1958 to 1961 and joined the University of
7 Colorado School of Medicine as an associate professor of surgery
8 in 1962, was promoted to professor in 1964 and served as
9 chairman of the Department of Surgery from 1972 to 1980; and

10 WHEREAS, In 1963, Dr. Starzl performed the world's first
11 human liver transplant; and

12 WHEREAS, In 1980, Dr. Starzl was responsible for developments
13 that advanced transplantation from an experimental procedure to
14 an accepted form of treatment for patients with end-stage liver,
15 kidney or heart disease; and

16 WHEREAS, In 1981, Dr. Starzl joined the University of
17 Pittsburgh School of Medicine as professor of surgery; and

18 WHEREAS, Dr. Starzl served as chief of transplantation
19 services at Presbyterian University Hospital, Children's
20 Hospital of Pittsburgh and the Veterans Administration Hospital
21 in Pittsburgh, overseeing the largest and busiest transplant
22 program in the world; and

23 WHEREAS, Dr. Starzl later assumed the title of Director of
24 the University of Pittsburgh Transplantation Institute, which
25 was renamed in his honor in 1996; and

26 WHEREAS, During his lifetime, Dr. Starzl was awarded many
27 accolades including the David M. Hume Memorial Award from the
28 National Kidney Foundation, the Brookdale Award in Medicine, the
29 Bigelow Medal from the Boston Surgical Society, the City of
30 Medicine Award, the Medallion for Scientific Achievement

1 presented by the American Surgical Association, the William
2 Beaumont Prize from the American Gastroenterological
3 Association, the Peter Medawar Prize of the Transplant Society,
4 the Jacobson Innovation Award of the American College of
5 Surgeons, the 1998 Lannelongue International Medal, the 2001
6 King Faisal International Prize for Medicine, the Rhoads Medal
7 of the American Philosophical Society, the 2002 Prince Mahidol
8 Award, the 2004 Presidential National Medal of Science as well
9 as 24 honorary doctorates from universities in the United States
10 and abroad; and

11 WHEREAS, On March 4, 2017, Dr. Starzl died at the age of 90;
12 therefore be it

13 RESOLVED, That the House of Representatives honor and
14 celebrate the life and accomplishments of Dr. Thomas Starzl.