
THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF PENNSYLVANIA

HOUSE RESOLUTION

No. 414 Session of
2019

INTRODUCED BY D. MILLER, KRUEGER, KINSEY, HILL-EVANS, DONATUCCI,
HARKINS, FRANKEL, BIZZARRO, A. DAVIS, YOUNGBLOOD, RAVENSTAHL,
CIRESI, WILLIAMS, READSHAW, MILLARD, MURT, KORTZ, WEBSTER,
T. DAVIS, CALTAGIRONE, McCLINTON, DELLOSO, DeLUCA, MADDEN,
O'MARA, MATZIE, DERMODY, WHEATLEY AND GALLOWAY, JUNE 25, 2019

INTRODUCED AS NONCONTROVERSIAL RESOLUTION UNDER RULE 35,
JUNE 25, 2019

A RESOLUTION

1 Recognizing and honoring the work and service of Leo W. Gerard
2 and his retirement as International President of the United
3 Steelworkers.

4 WHEREAS, Leo W. Gerard has spent 18 years of his life as

5 International President of the United Steelworkers (USW); and

6 WHEREAS, Mr. Gerard has spent more than 33 years in service

7 to the USW in key positions, first as Director of District 6 in

8 Ontario from 1986 to 1991, then as National Director for Canada

9 from 1991 to 1994 and the union's International Secretary-

10 Treasurer from 1994 to 2001; and

11 WHEREAS, Mr. Gerard's stewardship as International President

12 is extraordinary, as he worked with the government to halt a

13 flood of illegal steel imports and negotiated precedent-setting

14 labor agreements that positioned the USW as the decisive force

15 for a humane consolidation of the industry; and

16 WHEREAS, Mr. Gerard has forged mergers and alliances with

1 strong international industrial unions and helped to combat the
2 exploitation of workers in the developing world, who in turn
3 have supported USW campaigns to challenge renegade corporations;
4 and

5 WHEREAS, Mr. Gerard has helped build the USW into the largest
6 industrial union in North America and the dominant union in
7 paper, forestry products, steel, aluminum, tire and rubber,
8 mining, glass, chemicals, petroleum and other basic resource
9 industries, in addition to a growing membership in the health
10 care and service sectors; and

11 WHEREAS, The USW has unflinchingly stood up to trade-
12 distorting countries such as China under Mr. Gerard's
13 leadership, challenging unfair and illegal practices that have
14 cost USW members jobs and security; and

15 WHEREAS, In recognition of the regional and global strategies
16 of the USW's multinational employers, Mr. Gerard has championed
17 strategic alliances and global union networks throughout the
18 world; and

19 WHEREAS, Mr. Gerard played a key role in launching the first
20 transatlantic union, Workers Uniting, a creation of the USW and
21 Unite the Union, the largest industrial union in Great Britain
22 and Ireland, which counts 3.4 million active and retired workers
23 as members; and

24 WHEREAS, Other alliances include:

25 (1) IG Metall, the German metalworkers' union;

26 (2) AWU, the Australian Workers' Union;

27 (3) CFMEU, Australia's Construction, Forestry, Mining
28 and Energy Union;

29 (4) CNM/CUT, the largest metalworkers' union in Brazil;

30 and

1 (5) SNTMMSRM or Los Mineros, the National Union of Mine,
2 Metal, Steel and Allied Workers of the Republic of Mexico;
3 and

4 WHEREAS, Mr. Gerard has also exerted global leadership in
5 demanding worldwide standards for workers in the tire, rubber,
6 aluminum, mining and forestry products industries; and

7 WHEREAS, As USW President, Mr. Gerard was instrumental in the
8 formation of the Industrial Union Council of the AFL-CIO; and

9 WHEREAS, Mr. Gerard is a member of the AFL-CIO Executive
10 Committee and serves on its Executive Council; and

11 WHEREAS, Mr. Gerard was a driving force in founding the
12 BlueGreen Alliance, a national partnership of labor unions and
13 environmental organizations dedicated to expanding the number
14 and quality of jobs in the green economy; therefore be it

15 RESOLVED, That the House of Representatives recognize and
16 honor the work and service of Leo W. Gerard and his retirement
17 as International President of the United Steelworkers.