
THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF PENNSYLVANIA

HOUSE RESOLUTION

No. 415 Session of
2019

INTRODUCED BY KIM, KINSEY, ZABEL, HARRIS, SCHLOSSBERG, HILL-
EVANS, ROTHMAN, MILLARD, CALTAGIRONE, McCLINTON, FREEMAN,
GALLOWAY, STURLA, BURNS, MARKOSEK, WILLIAMS, FITZGERALD,
HOHENSTEIN AND TOOHIL, JUNE 19, 2019

REFERRED TO COMMITTEE ON STATE GOVERNMENT, JUNE 19, 2019

A RESOLUTION

1 Recognizing the historical importance of the 15th Amendment to
2 the Constitution of the United States and encouraging the
3 establishment of a monument upon the grounds of the
4 Pennsylvania State Capitol Complex.

5 WHEREAS, The 15th Amendment to the Constitution of the United
6 States prohibits the Federal Government and each state from
7 denying a citizen the right to vote based on that citizen's
8 "race, color, or previous condition of servitude"; and

9 WHEREAS, The 15th Amendment was ratified on February 3, 1870,
10 and the 150th anniversary of that ratification is being
11 celebrated in 2020; and

12 WHEREAS, The Historic 8th Ward of Harrisburg, where the
13 Pennsylvania State Capitol Complex currently is located, was a
14 major site during the process of ratification of the 15th
15 Amendment by the Commonwealth; and

16 WHEREAS, The General Assembly recognizes and celebrates that
17 the right of citizens of the United States to vote shall not be
18 denied or abridged by the United States or by any state on

1 account of race, color or previous condition of servitude;
2 therefore be it

3 RESOLVED, That the House of Representatives recognize the
4 historical importance of the 15th Amendment to the Constitution
5 of the United States and encourage the establishment of a
6 monument upon the grounds of the Pennsylvania State Capitol
7 Complex; and be it further

8 RESOLVED, That the House of Representatives encourage private
9 funding for the design and construction of the monument, with
10 the final design approval of the Department of General Services;
11 and be it further

12 RESOLVED, That the House of Representatives request that the
13 Department of General Services accept ownership of the monument
14 while allowing the installation and upkeep of the monument
15 through private funds as not to burden the Commonwealth
16 generally or the Department of General Services specifically;
17 and be it further

18 RESOLVED, That the House of Representatives urge the monument
19 being located on the lawn of the Speaker K. Leroy Irvis Office
20 Building within the Pennsylvania State Capitol Complex, the
21 former site of Harrisburg's 8th Ward; and be it further

22 RESOLVED, That the House of Representatives recommend the
23 installation and upkeep of the monument through private funds as
24 not to burden the Commonwealth; and be it further

25 RESOLVED, That copies of this resolution be transmitted to
26 the Governor and the Secretary of General Services to confirm
27 the endorsement of this monument by the House of
28 Representatives.