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THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF PENNSYLVANIA

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HOUSE RESOLUTION

No. 55 Session of  
2013

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INTRODUCED BY PAYNE, READSHAW, BARRAR, BENNINGHOFF, V. BROWN,  
CALTAGIRONE, CLYMER, COHEN, SCHLEGEL CULVER, DELUCA,  
DIGIROLAMO, EVERETT, GINGRICH, GRELL, HAHN, J. HARRIS,  
HEFFLEY, HENNESSEY, HICKERNELL, M. K. KELLER, KORTZ, KOTIK,  
MAJOR, MARSHALL, MARSICO, MASSER, MATZIE, MILLARD, MURT,  
PETRI, ROSS, ROZZI, SAINATO, SANTARSIERO, SONNEY AND VEREB,  
JANUARY 30, 2013

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INTRODUCED AS NONCONTROVERSIAL RESOLUTION UNDER RULE 35,  
JANUARY 30, 2013

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A RESOLUTION

1 Commemorating the 227th anniversary of the establishment of the  
2 Grand Lodge of Free and Accepted Masons of Pennsylvania.

3 WHEREAS, The Fraternity of Free and Accepted Masons is the  
4 oldest, largest and most widely known fraternal organization in  
5 the world; and

6 WHEREAS, In 1717, four lodges of Freemasons meeting in  
7 London, England, formed the first Grand Lodge; and

8 WHEREAS, The first Grand Lodge chartered Symbolic Lodges and  
9 Provincial Grand Lodges in many countries, including the United  
10 States; and

11 WHEREAS, Today, there are 51 Grand Lodges in the United  
12 States and approximately 1,600,000 Freemasons; and

13 WHEREAS, The Grand Lodge of Free and Accepted Masons of  
14 Pennsylvania (Lodge) was established on September 26, 1786, by  
15 delegates from the 13 lodges holding charters from the

1 Provincial Grand Lodge of Pennsylvania; and

2 WHEREAS, The Lodge is one of the oldest Grand Lodges in this  
3 country; and

4 WHEREAS, The Lodge is of the Ancients' tradition and its  
5 ancestor Grand Lodge is the Grand Lodge of Free and Accepted  
6 Masons of England, which was founded in 1751; and

7 WHEREAS, The headquarters of the Lodge is in the Masonic  
8 Temple at One North Broad Street in Philadelphia; and

9 WHEREAS, Mr. Jay W. Smith is the current Grand Master of the  
10 Lodge; and

11 WHEREAS, Freemasonry is a way of life that teaches tolerance  
12 towards all mankind; and

13 WHEREAS, According to the Lodge, "Freemasonry is kindness in  
14 the home, honesty in business, courtesy in society, fairness in  
15 work, pity and concern for the unfortunate, resistance towards  
16 evil, help for the weak, forgiveness for the penitent, love for  
17 one another and above all reverence and love for God"; and

18 WHEREAS, It is fitting to recognize the long history and  
19 positive contributions of the Lodge and its members to this  
20 Commonwealth; therefore be it

21 RESOLVED, That the House of Representatives commemorate the  
22 227th anniversary of the establishment of the Grand Lodge of  
23 Free and Accepted Masons of Pennsylvania.