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THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF PENNSYLVANIA

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HOUSE RESOLUTION

No. 87 Session of  
2021

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INTRODUCED BY PARKER, BULLOCK, BURGOS, DELLOSO, FRANKEL, GUENST,  
HERRIN, HOWARD, INNAMORATO, KENYATTA, KINKEAD, KINSEY,  
MADDEN, N. NELSON, SAMUELSON, SCHLOSSBERG, SHUSTERMAN,  
STURLA, WEBSTER AND WHEATLEY, APRIL 1, 2021

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REFERRED TO COMMITTEE ON STATE GOVERNMENT, APRIL 1, 2021

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A RESOLUTION

1 Urging President Joseph R. Biden, the Congress of the United  
2 States and United States Secretary of the Treasury Janet L.  
3 Yellen to honor the pledge made to place Harriet Tubman's  
4 image on the \$20 bill.

5 WHEREAS, In 2015, the United States Treasury Department  
6 announced a plan to place a woman on a currency note during the  
7 implementation of security and anti-counterfeiting measures  
8 along with the redesign process of the \$20, \$10 and \$5 bills;  
9 and

10 WHEREAS, More than 1 million citizens expressed their opinion  
11 and made hundreds of suggestions to then United States Secretary  
12 of the Treasury Jacob J. Lew; and

13 WHEREAS, On April 20, 2016, Secretary Lew announced that the  
14 women's suffrage movement would be honored on the back of the  
15 redesigned \$10 bill through depictions of Lucretia Mott,  
16 Sojourner Truth, Susan B. Anthony, Elizabeth Cady Stanton and  
17 Alice Paul for their contributions in shaping the history of  
18 this country; and

1       WHEREAS, Secretary Lew added that advancement in the Civil  
2 Rights Movement would focus on events at the Lincoln Memorial on  
3 the back of the new \$5 bill and Harriet Tubman would appear on  
4 the front of the new \$20 bill; and

5       WHEREAS, According to the Harriet Tubman Historical Society,  
6 Ms. Tubman was born Araminta Ross around 1822 in Dorchester  
7 County, Maryland; and

8       WHEREAS, Born into slavery, Ms. Tubman was forced to endure  
9 horrible living conditions and severe beatings while being  
10 forced to work under brutal and unconscionable labor conditions  
11 domestically for the slave owners' families and in the fields of  
12 the plantations; and

13       WHEREAS, After successfully escaping to the north through the  
14 assistance of the Underground Railroad in 1849, Ms. Tubman  
15 returned to the south and helped to free hundreds of slaves  
16 through the Underground Railroad; and

17       WHEREAS, Ms. Tubman's persistence and bravery continued as  
18 she worked for the Union Army during the Civil War as a cook,  
19 nurse, scout, spy and as a leader in the women's suffrage  
20 movement; and

21       WHEREAS, Ms. Tubman remained steadfast in her efforts toward  
22 freedom and equality until her death in 1913 in Auburn, New  
23 York; and

24       WHEREAS, Considering the exemplary life led by this American  
25 heroine, the nation overwhelmingly chose Ms. Tubman over any  
26 other individual female to receive the honor of being placed on  
27 the \$20 bill; and

28       WHEREAS, To reflect the more than 100 years since the passage  
29 of the 19th Amendment of the Constitution of the United States,  
30 which gave women the right to vote, United States Secretary of

1 the Treasury Janet L. Yellen should release the new currencies  
2 along with the added security measures in 2022; therefore be it  
3       RESOLVED, That the House of Representatives of the  
4 Commonwealth of Pennsylvania urge President Joseph R. Biden, the  
5 Congress of the United States and United States Secretary of the  
6 Treasury Janet L. Yellen to honor the pledge made to place  
7 Harriet Tubman's image on the \$20 bill; and be it further  
8       RESOLVED, That copies of this resolution be sent to the  
9 President of the United States, presiding officers of each house  
10 of Congress, each member of Congress from Pennsylvania and  
11 United States Secretary of the Treasury Janet L. Yellen.