
THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF PENNSYLVANIA

HOUSE RESOLUTION

No. 69 Session of
2013

INTRODUCED BY BRIGGS, J. HARRIS, GRELL, D. COSTA, KORTZ, MATZIE,
ROZZI, V. BROWN, GODSHALL, YOUNGBLOOD, MUSTIO, VEREB,
CONKLIN, SANTARSIERO, DIGIROLAMO, CALTAGIRONE, MILLARD,
HARHART, COHEN, PAINTER, FLECK, ROSS, EVERETT, CLYMER,
HENNESSEY, MAJOR, BENNINGHOFF, MAHONEY, GINGRICH, GOODMAN,
HESS, MURT, BRADFORD, PARKER, M. DALEY, KAMPF AND MCCARTER,
FEBRUARY 5, 2013

INTRODUCED AS NONCONTROVERSIAL RESOLUTION UNDER RULE 35,
FEBRUARY 5, 2013

A RESOLUTION

1 Commemorating the 300th anniversary of the establishment of
2 Upper Merion Township.

3 WHEREAS, In the early 18th century, Swedish and Welsh
4 immigrants settled along the banks of the Schuylkill River in
5 southeastern Pennsylvania in the area known today as Upper
6 Merion Township; and

7 WHEREAS, The township's establishment dates back to 1713,
8 when the King of Prussia Inn and several other inns in the
9 region were required to pay six shillings to the legislature for
10 licenses to operate their businesses; and

11 WHEREAS, In its early years, the township maintained a rural
12 character, consisting primarily of farms and large estates such
13 as the Manor of Mount Joy, which William Penn presented to his
14 daughter, Letitia; and

15 WHEREAS, As Upper Merion Township grew, it became home to

1 small villages such as King of Prussia, Swedeland and
2 Swedesburg, whose names reflected the cultural origin of many of
3 their inhabitants; and

4 WHEREAS, In addition, Upper Merion Township also became known
5 for industrial activities such as a large lime manufacturing
6 business located in the village of Port Kennedy; and

7 WHEREAS, IN 1893, Upper Merion Township received national
8 acclaim with the establishment of Valley Forge State Park "as a
9 shrine to commemorate the encampment of the Continental Army
10 there during the winter of 1777-78"; and

11 WHEREAS, The 20th century continued to bring prosperity to
12 the township as various transportation routes intersected in the
13 region and it was soon obvious that Upper Merion Township was
14 destined to become a major center of economic activity in
15 southeastern Pennsylvania; and

16 WHEREAS, This trend continued into the 1960s as the M.A.
17 Kravitz Company constructed the King of Prussia Plaza, which was
18 considered "the world's largest shopping center" at the time;
19 and

20 WHEREAS, Upper Merion Township has become one of the
21 Philadelphia region's premier office and retail communities and
22 employs more people than any other municipality in Montgomery
23 County; and

24 WHEREAS, This year marks the 300th anniversary of the
25 establishment of Upper Merion Township; and

26 WHEREAS, It is fitting to commemorate this important
27 milestone due to the contributions Upper Merion Township has
28 made to the history of this nation and our Commonwealth;
29 therefore be it

30 RESOLVED, That the House of Representatives commemorate the

1 tricentennial anniversary of the establishment of Upper Merion
2 Township.