

THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF PENNSYLVANIA

HOUSE RESOLUTION

No. 208 Session of 2013

INTRODUCED BY CRUZ, YOUNGBLOOD, PARKER, BISHOP, BROWNLEE, O'NEILL, B. BOYLE, KAVULICH, BARRAR, CLAY, LONGIETTI, W. KELLER, CALTAGIRONE, McGEEHAN, SAMUELSON, SCHLOSSBERG, DIGIROLAMO, BIZZARRO, MILLARD, MAJOR, KORTZ, MOLCHANY, P. DALEY, HAHN, O'BRIEN, GIBBONS, READSHAW, SNYDER, KULA, FLYNN, DENLINGER, GINGRICH, MAHONEY, FARRY, ROEBUCK, SIMMONS, COHEN, DeLUCA, HESS, WHITE, GOODMAN, WATSON AND HENNESSEY, APRIL 3, 2013

INTRODUCED AS NONCONTROVERSIAL RESOLUTION UNDER RULE 35, APRIL 3, 2013

A RESOLUTION

1 Celebrating the election of Cardinal Jorge Bergoglio, Archbishop  
 2 of Buenos Aires, to the Office of Pope and congratulating him  
 3 for becoming the world's first pontiff from Latin America.

4 WHEREAS, On March 13, 2013, the Vatican conclave elected  
 5 Argentina's Cardinal Jorge Bergoglio to become Pope, Bishop of  
 6 Rome and the Holy Father to the nearly 1.2 billion Catholics  
 7 throughout the world; and

8 WHEREAS, Former Bishop of Pittsburgh, now Cardinal and  
 9 Archbishop of Washington DC, Cardinal Donald Wuerl has described  
 10 Pope Francis as a man who is "very gentle but firm, very loving  
 11 but fearless, a very pastoral and caring person ideal for the  
 12 challenges today"; and

13 WHEREAS, A native of Buenos Aires, Argentina, Pope Francis  
 14 was born Jorge Bergoglio on December 17, 1936, in Buenos Aires,  
 15 Argentina, to Italian immigrant parents; and

1       WHEREAS, Pope Francis entered the Jesuit priesthood in 1969,  
2 served as Provincial for Argentina from 1973 to 1979 and was  
3 named Archbishop of Buenos Aires in 1998; and

4       WHEREAS, On February 21, 2001, the late Pope John Paul II  
5 announced he had appointed Archbishop Bergoglio to the office of  
6 Cardinal; and

7       WHEREAS, Pope Francis is a pope for the people who, while  
8 Cardinal, gave up the splendor of the office of Cardinal for a  
9 simple life of personal humility and commitment to social  
10 justice by riding public transportation, living in an apartment  
11 instead of the archbishop's palace, cooking his own meals and  
12 regularly visiting the slums that surround Buenos Aires; and

13       WHEREAS, Pope Francis is the first pope from Latin America  
14 and the first Jesuit pope; and

15       WHEREAS, His name, Francis, invokes the spirit of St. Francis  
16 of Assisi, and like St. Francis of Assisi, Pope Francis is  
17 revered among Catholics for his work with the poor; and

18       WHEREAS, It is the hope of both Latin-American Catholics and  
19 Catholics all over the world that Pope Francis will rebuild the  
20 Catholic Church through the teachings of poverty, humility and  
21 simplicity, and serve as a bridge between Europe and Latin  
22 America; therefore be it

23       RESOLVED, That the House of Representatives celebrate the  
24 election of Cardinal Jorge Bergoglio as Pope and congratulate  
25 him on being the world's first Latin-American Pontiff.