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THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF PENNSYLVANIA

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HOUSE RESOLUTION

No. 377 Session of  
2019

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INTRODUCED BY KENYATTA, ISAACSON, RABB, HOHENSTEIN, BIZZARRO,  
BURGOS, MERSKI, McCLINTON, SOLOMON, FRANKEL, YOUNGBLOOD,  
HOWARD, T. DAVIS, DONATUCCI, SCHLOSSBERG, CALTAGIRONE,  
RAVENSTAHL, SANCHEZ AND HILL-EVANS, JUNE 7, 2019

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REFERRED TO COMMITTEE ON RULES, JUNE 7, 2019

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A RESOLUTION

1 Commemorating the 50th anniversary of the Stonewall Riots in New  
2 York City.

3 WHEREAS, In the early morning hours of June 28, 1969, police  
4 led a raid at the Stonewall Inn, a popular gay bar located in  
5 the Greenwich Village neighborhood of New York City; and

6 WHEREAS, At a time when LGBTQ people were heavily  
7 marginalized and discriminated against, gay bars were considered  
8 places of refuge where individuals could openly socialize and  
9 express themselves; and

10 WHEREAS, These bars were often targeted and penalized by  
11 police as many bars in New York operated without liquor licenses  
12 due to the New York State Liquor Authority's refusal to grant  
13 licenses to those that served LGBTQ patrons; and

14 WHEREAS, When the police led their raid on the Stonewall Inn,  
15 its customers fought back in protest and were joined by crowds  
16 of local sympathizers outside the bar who objected to the  
17 constant police harassment of New York's LGBTQ community; and

1       WHEREAS, The uprising at the Stonewall Inn ignited a five-day  
2 series of protests that called attention to a group of people  
3 who were denied basic civil rights; and

4       WHEREAS, Among the protesters were two transgender women of  
5 color, Marsha P. Johnson and Sylvia Rivera, who are considered  
6 pioneers of the LGBTQ movement; and

7       WHEREAS, The events of the morning of June 28, 1969, and the  
8 days that followed, galvanized LGBTQ political activism not only  
9 at home in the United States but globally and led to the  
10 formation of the first LGBTQ organizations, including the Gay  
11 Liberation Front, Human Rights Campaign, GLAAD and PFLAG; and

12       WHEREAS, Over the past 50 years, the United States has made  
13 significant progress toward ensuring equal rights for LGBTQ  
14 Americans, including freedom from discrimination, protection  
15 from hate crimes and the right to marry; and

16       WHEREAS, In 2016, President Barack Obama designated the  
17 Stonewall Inn and the surrounding area a national monument in  
18 recognition of the site's significant contribution to LGBTQ and  
19 human rights; and

20       WHEREAS, This June, as the LGBTQ community observes "Pride  
21 Month," the courage and conviction of those who took a stand at  
22 the Stonewall Inn 50 years ago are being remembered and honored  
23 as we celebrate the progress that has been made and acknowledge  
24 the work toward absolute equality that lies ahead; therefore be  
25 it

26       RESOLVED, That the House of Representatives commemorate the  
27 50th anniversary of the Stonewall Riots in New York City; and be  
28 it further

29       RESOLVED, That the House of Representatives continue to work  
30 toward ensuring that all residents of this Commonwealth are

- 1 treated with equal respect and dignity and recognize that LGBTQ
- 2 rights are human rights.