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THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF PENNSYLVANIA

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HOUSE RESOLUTION

No. 399 Session of  
2015

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INTRODUCED BY DAWKINS, JUNE 16, 2015

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REFERRED TO COMMITTEE ON RULES, JUNE 16, 2015

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A RESOLUTION

1 Recognizing the observance of the Holy Month of Ramadan, a month  
2 of reflection and prayer for the Muslim community, which runs  
3 from June 18 through July 17, 2015, and the festival of Eid  
4 al-Fitr.

5 WHEREAS, Millions of Americans practice Islam; and

6 WHEREAS, The Muslim-American population is an extraordinary  
7 mosaic of ethnic, linguistic, ideological, social, economic and  
8 religious groups; and

9 WHEREAS, In representation of the ninth month of the Islamic  
10 calendar, Ramadan was established as a Holy Month for the people  
11 of the Muslim faith; and

12 WHEREAS, The Holy Month of Ramadan is celebrated each year  
13 based on the visual sightings of the crescent moon, as the time  
14 the Quran was revealed to the Prophet Muhammad on the occasion  
15 known as Laylat al-Qadr, the Night of Power; and

16 WHEREAS, Observers celebrate the ritual fast, known as Sawm,  
17 one of the five pillars of Islam, by fasting from dusk till  
18 dawn, experiencing hunger and thirst as a means of becoming more  
19 sympathetic, pious and charitable; and

1       WHEREAS, Participants during Ramadan devote themselves to  
2 reflection and the reading of the Quran, the purification of the  
3 soul and the practice of self-sacrifice; and

4       WHEREAS, During the Holy Month of Ramadan, Muslims focus  
5 fully on devotion and service to God, purging themselves of  
6 impure thoughts and motivations which are counter to Islam; and

7       WHEREAS, The faithful gather in celebration of Eid al-Fitr,  
8 the Festival of Fast Breaking, at the end of the Holy Month of  
9 Ramadan, one of the most important holidays in the Muslim world,  
10 marked with prayer, family reunions and the sharing of generous  
11 evening meals; therefore be it

12       RESOLVED, That the House of Representatives recognize the  
13 observance of the Holy Month of Ramadan, a month of reflection  
14 and prayer for the Muslim community, which runs from June 18  
15 through July 17, 2015, and the festival of Eid al-Fitr.