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THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF PENNSYLVANIA

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HOUSE RESOLUTION

No. 413 Session of  
2013

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INTRODUCED BY BISHOP, LUCAS, KIRKLAND, READSHAW, NEILSON,  
MCNEILL, V. BROWN, HENNESSEY, MCGEEHAN, CALTAGIRONE, MIRANDA,  
BROWNLEE, MILLARD, ROSS, DIGIROLAMO, FLYNN, PARKER, VEREB,  
SAMUELSON, MAHONEY, MARSICO, KIM, P. DALEY, GINGRICH, KINSEY,  
R. MILLER, GROVE, GOODMAN, HESS, FRANKEL, DENLINGER AND  
KORTZ, JULY 24, 2013

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INTRODUCED AS NONCONTROVERSIAL RESOLUTION UNDER RULE 35,  
JULY 24, 2013

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A RESOLUTION

1 Honoring and congratulating Dr. Guion S. Bluford, Jr., for his  
2 many accomplishments.

3 WHEREAS, Dr. Guion S. Bluford, Jr., (Colonel, USAF, Ret.),  
4 was born in 1942 in West Philadelphia, was an Eagle Scout in the  
5 Boy Scouts of America and graduated from Overbrook Senior High  
6 School in 1960; and

7 WHEREAS, Dr. Bluford received a doctor of philosophy and a  
8 master's degree with distinction in aerospace engineering from  
9 the Air Force Flight Institute of Technology, a master's degree  
10 in business administration from the University of Houston and a  
11 bachelor of science degree in aerospace engineering from The  
12 Pennsylvania State University; and

13 WHEREAS, Dr. Bluford flew 144 combat missions as a fighter  
14 pilot in the United States Air Force and logged more than 5,200  
15 hours of jet flight and won several medals, including the

1 Vietnam Cross of Gallantry with Palm; and

2 WHEREAS, Dr. Bluford became the first African American in  
3 space on August 30, 1983, aboard the space shuttle Challenger;  
4 and

5 WHEREAS, Dr. Bluford went to space a total of four times,  
6 completed 518 orbits of the Earth and logged more than 688 hours  
7 in space; and

8 WHEREAS, Dr. Bluford retired from NASA and the United States  
9 Air Force in 1993 and became the vice president of microgravity  
10 research and development operations for Logicon Operations and  
11 Services, a company of Northrop Grumman; and

12 WHEREAS, Dr. Bluford was inducted into the International  
13 Space Hall of Fame and received more than 50 special honors  
14 including The Pennsylvania State University Alumni Association's  
15 Distinguished Alumni Award for his outstanding achievement as an  
16 astronaut, officer and scholar; and

17 WHEREAS, Dr. Bluford is married to Linda Tull and has two  
18 sons, Guion III and James; therefore be it

19 RESOLVED, That the House of Representatives honor Dr. Guion  
20 S. Bluford, Jr., and congratulate him on his many  
21 accomplishments.