
THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF PENNSYLVANIA

HOUSE RESOLUTION

No. 42 Session of
2017

INTRODUCED BY PHILLIPS-HILL, BAKER, D. COSTA, DIGIROLAMO, DUSH,
FREEMAN, GREINER, HENNESSEY, KINSEY, LONGIETTI, MARSICO,
MILLARD, MURT, SANTORA, SONNEY, WARD, WATSON, CALTAGIRONE AND
KORTZ, JANUARY 25, 2017

INTRODUCED AS NONCONTROVERSIAL RESOLUTION UNDER RULE 35,
JANUARY 25, 2017

A RESOLUTION

1 Designating the week of February 11 through 18, 2017, as "Court
2 Reporting and Captioning Week" in Pennsylvania.

3 WHEREAS, For millennia, individuals have wanted the spoken
4 word translated into text to record history and, to accomplish
5 this task, have relied on scribes; and

6 WHEREAS, The profession of scribe was born with the rise of
7 civilization; and

8 WHEREAS, In Ancient Egypt, scribes were considered to be the
9 literate elite, recording laws and other important documents
10 and, since that time, have served as impartial witnesses to
11 history; and

12 WHEREAS, Scribes were present with our nation's founding
13 fathers as the Declaration of Independence and Bill of Rights
14 were drafted; and

15 WHEREAS, President Lincoln entrusted scribes to record the
16 Emancipation Proclamation; and

1 WHEREAS, Since the advent of shorthand machines, these
2 scribes have been known as court reporters and have played a
3 permanent and invaluable role in courtrooms across our country;
4 and

5 WHEREAS, Court reporters work in the General Assembly
6 preserving members' words and actions; and

7 WHEREAS, Court reporters and captioners are responsible for
8 the closed-captioning seen scrolling across television screens,
9 at sporting stadiums and in other community and education
10 settings, bringing information to millions of deaf and hearing-
11 impaired Americans every day; and

12 WHEREAS, Court reporters and captioners translate the spoken
13 word into text and preserve our history; and

14 WHEREAS, Whether called the scribes of yesterday or the court
15 reporters and captioners of today, the individuals who preserve
16 our nation's history are truly the guardians of the record;
17 therefore be it

18 RESOLVED, That the House of Representatives designate the
19 week of February 11 through 18, 2017, as "Court Reporting and
20 Captioning Week" in Pennsylvania and call on the people of this
21 Commonwealth to observe the week with appropriate programs,
22 ceremonies and educational activities.