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THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF PENNSYLVANIA

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HOUSE RESOLUTION

No. 664 Session of  
2018

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INTRODUCED BY PHILLIPS-HILL, BAKER, BIZZARRO, D. COSTA, SCHLEGEL  
CULVER, DIGIROLAMO, A. HARRIS, KINSEY, LONGIETTI, MARSICO,  
MILLARD, NEILSON, PICKETT, ROTHMAN, WARD AND M. QUINN,  
JANUARY 29, 2018

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INTRODUCED AS NONCONTROVERSIAL RESOLUTION UNDER RULE 35,  
JANUARY 29, 2018

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A RESOLUTION

1 Designating the week of February 10 through 17, 2018, 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 closed-captioning seen scrolling across television screens, at  
9 sporting stadiums and in other community and educational  
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 10 through 17, 2018, 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.