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THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF PENNSYLVANIA

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HOUSE RESOLUTION

No. 702 Session of  
2015

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INTRODUCED BY STURLA, KNOWLES, COHEN, CALTAGIRONE, ADOLPH, THOMAS, SCHLOSSBERG, HENNESSEY, KIM, TOEPEL, ROZZI, GREINER, D. COSTA, O'NEILL, FREEMAN, MURT, YOUNGBLOOD, HICKERNELL, CONKLIN, VEREB, LONGIETTI, READSHAW, CUTLER, BARBIN, MILLARD, SCHWEYER, ROEBUCK, KIRKLAND, BIZZARRO, MARSICO, ROSS, DUSH, SONNEY, KINSEY, KOTIK, GOODMAN, MAHONEY, PHILLIPS-HILL, NEILSON, WHEATLEY, BULLOCK, DIGIROLAMO, FARINA, EVERETT, GROVE, DONATUCCI, McNEILL, PETRI, MENTZER, WARD, MILNE, WATSON, GILLEN, FEE, B. MILLER, MAJOR, DeLUCA, GINGRICH AND BRADFORD, FEBRUARY 26, 2016

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INTRODUCED AS NONCONTROVERSIAL RESOLUTION UNDER RULE 35,  
FEBRUARY 26, 2016

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A RESOLUTION

1 Designating April 4, 2016, as "Thaddeus Stevens Day" in  
2 Pennsylvania.

3 WHEREAS, Thaddeus Stevens, a prominent figure in the 19th  
4 century history of Pennsylvania and the United States, was born  
5 in Vermont on April 4, 1792; and

6 WHEREAS, Mr. Stevens lived most of his life in Pennsylvania,  
7 teaching, practicing law and serving in the General Assembly  
8 from 1833 to 1841 and representing Pennsylvanians in Congress  
9 from 1849 to 1853 and again from 1858 until his death in 1868;  
10 and

11 WHEREAS, Mr. Stevens notably fought for the preservation of  
12 public education in this Commonwealth, for the emancipation of  
13 slaves, for passage of the 14th Amendment to the Constitution of

1 the United States and for Reconstruction of the South after the  
2 Civil War; and

3 WHEREAS, Mr. Stevens directed that, upon his death, he be  
4 buried in an integrated cemetery in the City of Lancaster with  
5 this self-composed epitaph on his grave marker: "I have chosen  
6 this that I might illustrate in my death the principles which I  
7 advocated through a long life, Equality of Man before his  
8 Creator"; and

9 WHEREAS, Mr. Stevens left a generous bequest upon his death  
10 on August 11, 1868, to establish a school for the relief and  
11 refuge of homeless, indigent orphans; and

12 WHEREAS, This bequest evolved to form the Thaddeus Stevens  
13 College of Technology, founded to provide solid industrial  
14 education to all residents of this Commonwealth regardless of  
15 race or color and is a living monument to the life of Thaddeus  
16 Stevens; therefore be it

17 RESOLVED, That the House of Representatives designate April  
18 4, 2016, as "Thaddeus Stevens Day" in Pennsylvania to  
19 commemorate the 224th anniversary of the birth of this  
20 remarkable man.