
THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF PENNSYLVANIA

HOUSE RESOLUTION

No. 794 Session of
2014

INTRODUCED BY COHEN, BISHOP, CALTAGIRONE, DiGIROLAMO, GINGRICH,
KIRKLAND, LUCAS, MCNEILL, MILLARD, MILNE, PAINTER, READSHAW,
ROSS AND YOUNGBLOOD, APRIL 28, 2014

REFERRED TO COMMITTEE ON STATE GOVERNMENT, APRIL 28, 2014

A RESOLUTION

1 Paying tribute to the late singer-songwriter Pete Seeger on May
2 3, 2014, the 95th anniversary of his birth, and recognizing
3 his unrelenting search for social and environmental justice
4 and his enduring impact on folk music.

5 WHEREAS, Mr. Seeger, who died on January 27, 2014, was born
6 into a musical family, his father Charles Seeger being a
7 musicologist and his mother Constance Seeger being a concert
8 violinist; and

9 WHEREAS, Mr. Seeger's talent and love for music grew with
10 him, matched only by his love for our country and the potential
11 he envisioned in it; and

12 WHEREAS, Mr. Seeger embarked on his musical career in the
13 late 1930s; and

14 WHEREAS, Mr. Seeger later founded the Almanac Singers, an
15 influential folk music group which became the Weavers; and

16 WHEREAS, Never one to bend his morals, Mr. Seeger left the
17 Weavers when the other members of the band agreed to record a
18 cigarette commercial; and

1 WHEREAS, Mr. Seeger was blacklisted in the 1950s, though
2 having ended his status as an American Communist in 1949; and

3 WHEREAS, Mr. Seeger championed civil and labor rights into
4 the early 1960s while still blacklisted from performing; and

5 WHEREAS, Mr. Seeger is credited in part with the folk music
6 revival of the late 1950s and early 1960s; and

7 WHEREAS, Mr. Seeger wrote the famous folk songs "Where Have
8 All the Flowers Gone," "We Shall Overcome" and "Turn, Turn,
9 Turn"; and

10 WHEREAS, Mr. Seeger's song "We Shall Overcome" became the
11 anthem of the civil rights movement; and

12 WHEREAS, Mr. Seeger organized the annual music festival the
13 Great Hudson River Revival; and

14 WHEREAS, Mr. Seeger avidly pursued social and environmental
15 justice; and

16 WHEREAS, To raise awareness of pollution in the Hudson River
17 and conduct antipollution work, Mr. Seeger cofounded the Hudson
18 River Sloop Clearwater; and

19 WHEREAS, At 91 years of age, Mr. Seeger wrote the song "God's
20 Counting on Me, God's Counting on You" about the Deepwater
21 Horizon oil spill; and

22 WHEREAS, Until his death, Mr. Seeger took elementary school
23 groups on boat trips to demonstrate the impact of pollution; and

24 WHEREAS, Mr. Seeger's activism included performing at benefit
25 concerts honoring victims of social and environmental
26 injustices; and

27 WHEREAS, Along with Toshi Seeger, his wife and driving force
28 for seven decades, Mr. Seeger participated in Iraq war protests;
29 and

30 WHEREAS, Self-educated in American folklore, Mr. Seeger

1 influenced countless artists and students as a chronicler of our
2 traditions, hardships and freedoms won; and

3 WHEREAS, Mr. Seeger's son Peter Ota Seeger predeceased him;
4 and

5 WHEREAS, Mr. Seeger's children Daniel, Mika and Tinya and
6 grandchildren Tao, Cassie, Kitama and Moraya survive him;
7 therefore be it

8 RESOLVED, That the House of Representatives pay tribute to
9 the late singer-songwriter Pete Seeger on May 3, 2014, the 95th
10 anniversary of his birth, and recognize his unrelenting search
11 for social and environmental justice and his enduring impact on
12 folk music.