
THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF PENNSYLVANIA

HOUSE RESOLUTION

No. 982 Session of
2018

INTRODUCED BY DeLISSIO, WHITE, HENNESSEY, DONATUCCI, BIZZARRO,
READSHAW, DiGIROLAMO, SCHLEGEL CULVER, NEILSON, THOMAS,
DAVIS, KINSEY, J. HARRIS, MILLARD, GODSHALL, J. McNEILL,
WARD, SOLOMON, HILL-EVANS, HELM, MARSICO, YOUNGBLOOD, KORTZ,
DRISCOLL, SIMS AND M. QUINN, JUNE 18, 2018

INTRODUCED AS NONCONTROVERSIAL RESOLUTION UNDER RULE 35,
JUNE 18, 2018

A RESOLUTION

1 Honoring the Philadelphia Boys Choir and Chorale on the occasion
2 of its 50th anniversary.

3 WHEREAS, Robert G. Hamilton established the Philadelphia Boys
4 Choir and Chorale in 1968; and

5 WHEREAS, Jeffrey R. Smith has directed the choir since 2004;
6 and

7 WHEREAS, Members of the Emmy-winning and Grammy-nominated
8 choir are recognized for their musicianship, intelligence and
9 interpretive abilities; and

10 WHEREAS, Shawn Stockman, Ukee Washington, Justin Hopkins, Joe
11 Bonsall and John Stroud are choir alumni; and

12 WHEREAS, The choir has cultivated a devoted following
13 worldwide as America's Ambassadors of Song, having traveled to
14 Argentina, China, Egypt, Russia and Spain; and

15 WHEREAS, As the first American performing arts group to
16 perform on Cuban soil in the decades following the revolution,

1 the choir has traveled to Cuba four times; and

2 WHEREAS, The illustrious international touring program has
3 featured an extended tour in China as well as engagements in
4 France at the D-Day beaches in Normandy and Notre-Dame de Paris
5 and in Great Britain at King's College and the Millennium
6 Centre; and

7 WHEREAS, The choir is set to travel to Singapore and Vietnam
8 later this year; and

9 WHEREAS, Prior to the Papal Mass in Philadelphia in 2015, the
10 choir presented a unique arrangement of a popular hymn, a moving
11 spiritual written by a Philadelphia composer and a
12 classical/sacred piece specially selected for His Holiness; and

13 WHEREAS, The choir has participated in Philadelphia Phillies
14 home openers and Pennsylvania Ballet productions of The
15 Nutcracker; and

16 WHEREAS, The choir has performed in Carnegie Hall, Lincoln
17 Center for the Performing Arts, the Kimmel Center for the
18 Performing Arts, the Mann Center for the Performing Arts and the
19 Academy of Music; and

20 WHEREAS, The choir has recorded with Opera Philadelphia and
21 internationally renowned orchestras as well as Luciano Pavarotti
22 and other vocal soloists; and

23 WHEREAS, The choir has appeared on Good Morning America, The
24 Today Show and Saturday Night Live; and

25 WHEREAS, The Philadelphia Orchestra, the Philly Pops, Curtis
26 Institute, the Mendelssohn Club, Vox Ama Deus and The Chamber
27 Orchestra of Philadelphia have collaborated with the choir;
28 therefore be it

29 RESOLVED, That the House of Representatives honor the
30 Philadelphia Boys Choir and Chorale on the occasion of its 50th

1 anniversary; and be it further

2 RESOLVED, That the House of Representatives extend best
3 wishes for the choir's continued commitment to breaking through
4 social, political and cultural barriers; and be it further

5 RESOLVED, That the House of Representatives invite young men
6 in the Philadelphia region to join in the choir's journey of
7 musical education and discovery.