
THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF PENNSYLVANIA

HOUSE RESOLUTION

No. 638 Session of
2015

INTRODUCED BY PAYNE, GINGRICH, READSHAW, BAKER, BARBIN, BARRAR, BIZZARRO, BOBACK, R. BROWN, V. BROWN, CALTAGIRONE, COHEN, CONKLIN, CORBIN, D. COSTA, SCHLEGEL CULVER, DAVIS, DIGIROLAMO, DONATUCCI, DRISCOLL, DUSH, EVERETT, GODSHALL, GOODMAN, GREINER, GROVE, HARHART, A. HARRIS, HEFFLEY, HENNESSEY, HICKERNELL, PHILLIPS-HILL, JAMES, JOZWIAK, KAUFFMAN, KILLION, KINSEY, KOTIK, LEWIS, LONGIETTI, MAHONEY, MARSHALL, MARSICO, MASSER, METZGAR, MILLARD, MURT, NEILSON, O'BRIEN, O'NEILL, ORTITAY, D. PARKER, PETRI, PICKETT, QUIGLEY, RAPP, REGAN, ROSS, ROZZI, SACCONI, SANTORA, SAYLOR, SCHLOSSBERG, SCHWEYER, SONNEY, TAYLOR, TOEPEL, VEREB, WARD, WHEELAND, WHITE, ZIMMERMAN, MILNE AND WATSON, JANUARY 21, 2016

INTRODUCED AS NONCONTROVERSIAL RESOLUTION UNDER RULE 35,
JANUARY 21, 2016

A RESOLUTION

1 Celebrating the Pennsylvania State Police Academy.

2 WHEREAS, The Pennsylvania State Police was established as an
3 executive department of State government by an act of the
4 General Assembly in 1905 and became not only the first uniformed
5 police organization of its kind in the nation, but also a model
6 for other state police agencies throughout the country; and

7 WHEREAS, Initially, newly enlisted Pennsylvania State
8 Policemen, referred to as "probationers," turned to their
9 commanding officer and senior men of the troop for training in
10 the skills they needed for police work; and

11 WHEREAS, A more standardized and efficient method was needed

1 and, in 1910, the superintendent designated Troop C Pottsville
2 as a training center for all student recruits; and

3 WHEREAS, In 1921, an act of the General Assembly allowed for
4 the first official State Police Training School to be
5 established in Newville, Cumberland County; and

6 WHEREAS, Three years later the training school was moved to
7 better facilities on Cocoa Avenue in Hershey, Dauphin County;
8 and

9 WHEREAS, From 1924 to 1959, the Hershey Training School
10 molded student recruits into the finest troopers in the nation;
11 and

12 WHEREAS, As the complement grew steadily, it became apparent
13 that the needs of the department were outgrowing the facilities
14 on Cocoa Avenue; and

15 WHEREAS, In an effort to keep the training school in the
16 area, the Hershey Estates Board of Directors sold 28 acres of
17 land situated atop "The Hill," which allowed the department to
18 build a state-of-the-art facility; and

19 WHEREAS, Act 112 of 1959 pronounced that the new training
20 school would be known as the State Police Academy, rather than
21 the State Police Training School and, in 1960, the act was
22 amended to change the enlistee's title from "Student Recruit" to
23 "Cadet"; and

24 WHEREAS, Due to this legacy of intense and thorough training,
25 the Pennsylvania State Police Academy is still considered the
26 West Point of all police training schools in the country and
27 continues to produce the most well-trained troopers in the
28 world; and

29 WHEREAS, Currently, the training offered at the academy is
30 designed to prepare the cadets for field assignments and

1 emphasizes such subjects as criminal law and procedure, the
2 Vehicle Code, accident investigation, firearms training and
3 self-defense; and

4 WHEREAS, One of the unique phases of the student's training
5 revolves around equitation skills; and

6 WHEREAS, In addition to cadet training, the academy and
7 former training schools have also performed specialized police
8 services as needed; and

9 WHEREAS, Today, the academy coordinates community service
10 programs, oversees the Ceremonial Unit and Tactical Mounted Unit
11 and offers in-service training programs for State Police
12 personnel and training courses for municipal officers; and

13 WHEREAS, Since its opening in 1960, 141 classes of cadets
14 have graduated from the academy in Hershey; and

15 WHEREAS, Two classes graduated in 2015, consisting of 122
16 cadets, men and women, on May 22, 2015, and 95 cadets on
17 December 4, 2015; and

18 WHEREAS, The Pennsylvania State Police Academy continues to
19 produce the finest troopers in order to provide the residents of
20 this Commonwealth with the most effective Statewide law
21 enforcement system possible; therefore be it

22 RESOLVED, That the House of Representatives celebrate the
23 Pennsylvania State Police Academy.