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THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF PENNSYLVANIA

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**HOUSE RESOLUTION**

**No. 808**      Session of  
2008

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INTRODUCED BY GEORGE, JUNE 18, 2008

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INTRODUCED AS NONCONTROVERSIAL RESOLUTION UNDER RULE 35,  
JUNE 18, 2008

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A RESOLUTION

1 Welcoming the 2008 National Conference of the United States  
2 Environmental Protection Agency Small Business Ombudsman and  
3 the State Small Business Ombudsman and State Small Business  
4 Environmental Assistance Programs to Pennsylvania which is  
5 being held in Harrisburg on June 16 through 20, 2008, and  
6 recognizing the outstanding work of these programs.

7 WHEREAS, The more than 26 million small businesses in the  
8 United States are the driving force behind the nation's economy,  
9 creating more than 2/3 of net new jobs over the past decade and  
10 generating more than 50% of the nonfarm private gross domestic  
11 product; and

12 WHEREAS, The Congress of the United States recognized the  
13 unique environmental and energy assistance needs of the small  
14 business community when establishing the Small Business  
15 Technical and Environmental Compliance Assistance Program under  
16 section 507 of the Clean Air Act Amendments of 1990; and

17 WHEREAS, Every commonwealth and state is required under  
18 section 507 of the Clean Air Act Amendments of 1990 to have a  
19 program with three key elements:

- 1 (1) a small business ombudsman;
- 2 (2) a small business environmental assistance program to
- 3 provide compliance assistance; and
- 4 (3) a compliance advisory panel or committee;
- 5 and

6 WHEREAS, The Commonwealth of Pennsylvania has established a

7 program with all three elements; and

8 WHEREAS, The Office of the Small Business Ombudsman is

9 located in the Pennsylvania Department of Environmental

10 Protection; and

11 WHEREAS, The Pennsylvania Small Business Environmental

12 Assistance Program is administered by the Pennsylvania Small

13 Business Development Center's Environmental Management

14 Assistance Program through a partnership with the Pennsylvania

15 Department of Environmental Protection; and

16 WHEREAS, The Pennsylvania Small Business Environmental

17 Compliance Assistance Committee is made up of hard-working and

18 selfless volunteers from across the Commonwealth of

19 Pennsylvania, committing their time to represent various small

20 business and environmental perspectives and to assist the small

21 business community; and

22 WHEREAS, Harrisburg, Pennsylvania, is the site of the 2008

23 National Conference of the United States Environmental

24 Protection Agency Small Business Ombudsman and all of the State

25 Small Business Ombudsmen and Small Business Environmental

26 Assistance Programs; therefore be it

27 RESOLVED, That the House of Representatives of the

28 Commonwealth of Pennsylvania honor the contributions of

29 America's small businesses to our national economy; and be it

30 further

1       RESOLVED, That the House of Representatives of the  
2 Commonwealth of Pennsylvania recognize the unique environmental  
3 and energy assistance needs of the small business community and  
4 urge continued support and development of targeted small  
5 business environmental and energy technical and financial  
6 assistance programs; and be it further

7       RESOLVED, That the House of Representatives of the  
8 Commonwealth of Pennsylvania warmly welcome to Pennsylvania the  
9 2008 National Conference of the United States Environmental  
10 Protection Agency Small Business Ombudsman and State Small  
11 Business Ombudsmen and State Small Business Environmental  
12 Assistance Programs; and be it further

13       RESOLVED, That the House of Representatives of the  
14 Commonwealth of Pennsylvania congratulate the hard work and  
15 commitment of the Pennsylvania Department of Environmental  
16 Protection's Small Business Ombudsman, the Pennsylvania Small  
17 Business Development Center's Environmental Management  
18 Assistance Program and the individual members of the  
19 Pennsylvania Small Business Environmental Compliance Advisory  
20 Committee in helping the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania's vital  
21 small business community and in hosting this national  
22 conference; and be it further

23       RESOLVED, That the House of Representatives of the  
24 Commonwealth of Pennsylvania applaud and appreciate the hard  
25 work and commitment of the United States Environmental  
26 Protection Agency Small Business Ombudsman and all State Small  
27 Business Ombudsmen and State Small Business Environmental  
28 Assistance Programs in helping small businesses achieve and  
29 maintain environmental compliance and to operate in economically  
30 and environmentally sustainable ways; and be it further

1       RESOLVED, That copies of this resolution be transmitted to  
2 the President of the United States, the Governor of  
3 Pennsylvania, the Administrator of the United States  
4 Environmental Protection Agency, the Secretary of the  
5 Pennsylvania Department of Environmental Protection, the State  
6 Director of the Pennsylvania Small Business Development Centers  
7 and the Chairman of the Pennsylvania Small Business  
8 Environmental Compliance Assistance Committee.