

THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF PENNSYLVANIA

HOUSE RESOLUTION

No. 827 Session of 2008

INTRODUCED BY HUTCHINSON AND ROAE, JUNE 26, 2008

INTRODUCED AS NONCONTROVERSIAL RESOLUTION UNDER RULE 35,
JUNE 26, 2008

A RESOLUTION

Recognizing the month of August 2008 as "Oil Heritage Month" in Pennsylvania.

WHEREAS, On August 27, 1859, "Colonel" Edwin L. Drake drilled the world's first commercial oil well near Titusville, striking oil at 69.5 feet; and

WHEREAS, The world's modern oil and gas industry was thus born on the banks of Oil Creek; and

WHEREAS, Pennsylvanians were the pioneers of the world's oil industry, creating the first oil tank car, oil pipeline, methods of refining oil and other industry innovations; and

WHEREAS, The men and women of this Commonwealth were leaders in the building of the United States through the development of the petroleum industry, which continues to this day; and

WHEREAS, Oil and gas are currently produced in 31 of the State's 67 counties by the Commonwealth's independent producers; and

WHEREAS, Pennsylvania oil producers currently operate more than 17,000 wells, producing more than 3.5 million barrels of Pennsylvania Grade Crude Oil each year; and

WHEREAS, Pennsylvania's natural gas producers operate at least 50,000 wells, satisfying approximately 25% of this Commonwealth's annual demand; and

WHEREAS, Oil and gas will continue to play a vital role in this Commonwealth's future, since Pennsylvania currently has approximately 14 million barrels of proved crude oil reserves remaining to be produced and an estimated 2.8 trillion cubic feet of proved natural gas reserves in the ground awaiting development; and

WHEREAS, In 1994, Governor Robert P. Casey designated a 708 square mile area in Venango and Eastern Crawford Counties as the Oil Region Heritage Park; and

WHEREAS, In 2004, the Congress of the United States designated the same territory as the Oil Region National Heritage Area; and

WHEREAS, Every day, Pennsylvanians use oil-based products such as gasoline, medicine, plastic, cosmetics and others, to enhance their daily lives; therefore be it

RESOLVED, That the House of Representatives recognize the month of August 2008 as "Oil Heritage Month" in Pennsylvania and encourage residents and visitors alike to observe and take pride in this Commonwealth's continuing oil legacy.