
THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF PENNSYLVANIA

HOUSE RESOLUTION

No. 94 Session of
2019

INTRODUCED BY BRIGGS, BIZZARRO, D. MILLER, DIGIROLAMO, COX,
KORTZ, HARKINS, HILL-EVANS, CALTAGIRONE, RYAN, SCHLOSSBERG,
LONGIETTI, FREEMAN, MURT, MILLARD, VITALI, PASHINSKI,
DAVIDSON, SAMUELSON, DALEY, PYLE, SCHWEYER, OTTEN, SAYLOR,
McCLINTON, DeLUCA, NEILSON AND MARKOSEK, FEBRUARY 20, 2019

INTRODUCED AS NONCONTROVERSIAL RESOLUTION UNDER RULE 35,
FEBRUARY 20, 2019

A RESOLUTION

1 Extending condolences and celebrating the life of Harris
2 Wofford.

3 WHEREAS, Harris Wofford was born April 9, 1926, in New York
4 City; and

5 WHEREAS, When he was 17 years of age, Mr. Wofford served his
6 country in the United States Army Air Corps stateside through
7 the end of World War II; and

8 WHEREAS, Mr. Wofford graduated from the University of Chicago
9 and attended Howard University School of Law before graduating
10 from Yale Law School; and

11 WHEREAS, While traveling to India with his wife Clare, he
12 learned of the concept of nonviolent civil disobedience from
13 Mahatma Gandhi; and

14 WHEREAS, Mr. Wofford became an advisor to Martin Luther King,
15 Jr., and accompanied him in civil rights demonstrations; and

16 WHEREAS, After having met John F. Kennedy at a party in

1 Connecticut in 1947, Mr. Wofford was asked to join his
2 presidential campaign in 1960; and

3 WHEREAS, Mr. Wofford's value to the campaign became clear
4 when he advised the Democratic nominee to make a pivotal phone
5 call to Coretta Scott King offering his sympathy when her
6 husband, Dr. King, was arrested for his participation in a sit-
7 in in Atlanta, Georgia; and

8 WHEREAS, After the successful campaign, Mr. Wofford joined
9 the Kennedy administration as the special assistant on civil
10 rights; and

11 WHEREAS, From 1970 until 1978, Mr. Wofford served as the
12 president of Bryn Mawr College; and

13 WHEREAS, After serving at Bryn Mawr College, Mr. Wofford
14 became the chairman of the Pennsylvania Democratic Party before
15 serving as former Governor Casey's Secretary of Labor and
16 Industry from 1987 until 1991; and

17 WHEREAS, In 1991, Mr. Wofford was appointed to serve in the
18 United States Senate representing Pennsylvania after Senator
19 John Heinz died; and

20 WHEREAS, After his initial appointment by Governor Robert
21 Casey, Sr., Mr. Wofford won a special election to serve until
22 1995; and

23 WHEREAS, Due to his support for a national health care
24 system, he was considered as a running mate for Democratic
25 nominee William Clinton before Al Gore was ultimately selected;
26 and

27 WHEREAS, On January 21, 2019, Mr. Wofford passed away due to
28 complications from a fall; and

29 WHEREAS, He is proceeded in death by his wife, Clare Wofford,
30 and is survived by his three children, six grandchildren and

1 husband Matthew Charlton; therefore be it

2 RESOLVED, That the House of Representatives extend

3 condolences and celebrate the life of Harris Wofford.