

## House Resolution 875

By: Representatives Purcell of the 159<sup>th</sup> and Stephens of the 164<sup>th</sup>

## A RESOLUTION

1 Celebrating the 300th anniversary of the birth of Reverend Henry M. Muhlenberg; and for  
2 other purposes.

3 WHEREAS, Reverend Henry M. Muhlenberg, the Father of American Lutheranism, was  
4 born on September 6, 1711, in Germany; and

5 WHEREAS, Reverend Muhlenberg was educated at the University of Halle in Germany,  
6 completed his studies in 1738, and taught at the Halle Orphanage; and

7 WHEREAS, in 1742, Reverend Muhlenberg emigrated to North America to raise funds for  
8 the expansion of the Lutheran Church, to revitalize the church, and to start new Lutheran  
9 congregations; and

10 WHEREAS, on several occasions, Reverend Muhlenberg visited Ebenezer, Georgia, in  
11 Effingham County, where he was greeted by Reverend John Martin Boltzius and Reverend  
12 Israel Christian Gronau, spiritual leaders for the Georgia Salzburgers in America; and

13 WHEREAS, Reverend Muhlenberg's ministry was based in the Philadelphia area, and his  
14 influence ranged throughout the American colonies; and

15 WHEREAS, in 1742, he assumed the pastorate of the Old Trappe Church in Philadelphia,  
16 and under his leadership, the congregation built a church and schoolhouse based upon his  
17 designs which became known as Augustus Lutheran Church, and today it stands as the oldest  
18 unchanged Lutheran church building in continuous use in the United States; and

19 WHEREAS, in honor of the 300th anniversary of Reverend Muhlenberg's birth, an exhibition  
20 of his life works will be hosted in Pennsylvania and Atlanta and Savannah, Georgia.

21 NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES that  
22 the members of this body honor the life and legacy of Reverend Henry M. Muhlenberg on  
23 the 300th anniversary of his birth.

24 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Clerk of the House of Representatives is authorized  
25 and directed to transmit an appropriate copy of this resolution to Consul General Dr. Lutz H.  
26 Görgens, Consulate General of the Federal Republic of Germany, and Dr. Thomas  
27 Müller-Bahlke, Franckesche Stiftungen, Halle, Germany.