

February 24, 2012

MEMORANDUM

TO: ALL MEMBERS

FROM: Kevin Murphy, Member
113th Legislative District—Lackawanna County

RE: Co-Sponsor of Resolution for Hibernian Heritage Month

I ask you to join with me in honoring an 176-year-old organization founded in Pennsylvania by co-sponsoring and voting for a resolution designating March 2012 as Hibernian Heritage Month in Pennsylvania.

The Ancient Order of Hibernians (AOH) began in May 1836 in Pennsylvania and New York and exists as America's oldest Irish Catholic group. AOH members can trace the group's roots back 300 years earlier to when their ancestors risk life and property to keep the Irish language, culture and the Roman Catholic religion alive in Ireland. The AOH holds to goals of assisting in the reunification of Ireland and in promoting Irish culture. Historically, the group gives aid, both economic and social, to newly arrived Irish. It also does a variety of community service by supporting a variety of charities that include: food and clothing banks, educational scholarships and veterans' assistance.

The AOH has more than 80,000 members in 46 states, Canada and Ireland. It also has chapters throughout Pennsylvania including these counties: Adams, Allegheny, Berks, Bucks, Cambria, Carbon, Cumberland, Dauphin, Delaware, Lebanon, Lehigh, Luzerne, Lycoming, Monroe, Montgomery, Northampton, Northumberland, Philadelphia, Schuylkill and York that include thousands of members. Last year the House unanimously approved a similar noncontroversial resolution I had introduced. These Members had co-sponsored that resolution: HENNESSEY, B. BOYLE, BRENNAN, CALTAGIRONE, COHEN, P. COSTA, DIGIROLAMO, FARRY, FREEMAN, GALLOWAY, GEIST, GEORGE, GINGRICH, HESS, W. KELLER, KNOWLES, KORTZ, LONGIETTI, McGEEHAN, MILLARD, MIRABITO, M. O'BRIEN, PASHINSKI, PYLE, QUIGLEY, QUINN, READSHAW, SANTONI, SCAVELLO, SCHRODER, K. SMITH, SWANGER, TAYLOR, VULAKOVICH, HANNA, MANN, FLECK, MAHONEY, MULLERY, KULA, DALEY, STERN, REICHLEY, DONATUCCI, DEASY, HARPER, O'NEILL, BRADFORD, GOODMAN, DeLUCA, D. COSTA, GIBBONS and WHEATLEY. I hope they and the rest of the House will co-sponsoring and support this resolution. Please contact Steph in my office at shardman@pahouse.net. Thanks.