Whereas, This Commonwealth has a rich natural bounty of more than 17 million acres of renewable hardwood forest land; and

Whereas, This vast forest resource has been a staple component of this nation’s and this Commonwealth’s economy since the founding of America and has sustained businesses, families and entire rural communities; and

Whereas, Through the generations, Pennsylvania’s forest products industry has grown to represent this Commonwealth’s fourth largest manufacturing sector, with more than 2,200 employers and 90,000 employees; and

Whereas, The forest products industry relies on the forest resource to make this Commonwealth the number one producer of hardwood-based material and to meet the public’s increasing demand for wood and wood-related products; and

Whereas, The Pennsylvania forest products industry, in recognition of its stewardship responsibilities in nurturing the forest resource, has committed itself to the continuing principles of sustainable forestry by initiating the Sustainable Forestry Initiative to promote, educate, train and monitor adherence to sustaining the forest resource for future generations; and

Whereas, The Sustainable Forestry Initiative is based on the responsible environmental stewardship of the forests, water resources and wildlife; therefore be it

Resolved, That the Senate commend Pennsylvania’s forest products industry for its history of care and commitment to the responsible use of resources; and be it further

Resolved, That the Senate recognize the development of Sustainable Forestry Initiative, which has educated landowners, foresters and loggers about the sustainability of Pennsylvania’s forests; and be it further
Resolved, That the Senate endorse the Sustainable Forestry Initiative and its self-regulatory objectives of increasing knowledge, professionalism and stewardship that will foster the sustainability of Pennsylvania's forests; and be it further

Resolved, That the Senate request that the public, forest landowners and resource agencies embrace and support the objectives of the Sustainable Forestry Initiative in this Commonwealth.

I certify that the foregoing is a true and correct copy of Senate Resolution No. 160, introduced by Senators Roger C. Madigan, Raphael J. Musto, John E. Peterson, Patrick J. Stapleton, Noah W. Wenger, J. Doyle Conner, Roy C. Aplechbach, Edward W. Helfrich, Robert D. Robbins, Allyson Y. Schiartz, James J. Rhoades, Melissa A. Hart, Frank A. Salvatore, Robert M. Farnsworth and David W. Heckler, and adopted by the Senate of the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania the nineteenth day of November in the year of our Lord, one thousand nine hundred and ninety-six.

Mark R. Cassigan, Secretary
Whereas, This Commonwealth has a rich natural bounty of more than 17 million acres of renewable hardwood forest land; and

Whereas, This vast forest resource has been a staple component of this nation's and this Commonwealth's economy since the founding of America and has sustained businesses, families and entire rural communities; and

Whereas, Through the generations, Pennsylvania's forest products industry has grown to represent this Commonwealth's fourth largest manufacturing sector, with more than 2,200 employers and 90,000 employees; and

Whereas, The forest products industry relies on the forest resource to make this Commonwealth the number one producer of hardwood-based material and to meet the public's increasing demand for wood and wood-related products; and

Whereas, The Pennsylvania forest products industry, in recognition of its stewardship responsibilities in nurturing the forest resource, has committed itself to the continuing principles of sustainable forestry by initiating the Sustainable Forestry Initiative to promote, educate, train and monitor adherence to sustaining the forest resource for future generations; and

Whereas, The Sustainable Forestry Initiative is based on the responsible environmental stewardship of the forests, water resources and wildlife; therefore be it

Resolved, That the House of Representatives commend Pennsylvania's forest products industry for its history of care and commitment to the responsible use of resources; and be it further
Resolved, That the House of Representatives recognize the development of Sustainable Forestry Initiative, which has educated landowners, foresters and loggers about the sustainability of Pennsylvania’s forests; and be it further

Resolved, That the House of Representatives endorse the Sustainable Forestry Initiative and its self-regulatory objectives of increasing knowledge, professionalism and stewardship that will foster the sustainability of Pennsylvania’s forests; and be it further

Resolved, That the House of Representatives request that the public, forest landowners and resource agencies embrace and support the objectives of the Sustainable Forestry Initiative in this Commonwealth.

I certify that the foregoing is a true and correct copy of House Resolution No. 480, introduced by Representatives Jim Lynch, Peter J. Zug, Scott E. Hutchinson, Kenneth M. Jadlowiec, Allen Egolf, and adopted by the Pennsylvania House of Representatives of the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania.

Matthew J. Ryan, Speaker
Whereas, In October 1994, the American Forest & Paper Association (AF&PA) announced a landmark program for its membership, the Sustainable Forestry Initiative (SFI); and

Whereas, The Pennsylvania SFI Implementation Committee (SIC) was formed in 1995 and began meeting monthly in State College; and

Whereas, It was quickly decided that the Hardwood Lumber Manufacturers Association of Pennsylvania, which is now the Pennsylvania Forest Products Association, would house and provide administrative support to the newly formed SIC; and

Whereas, The guidelines required that AF&PA members practice sustainable forestry on their own lands and educate loggers and nonindustrial landowners on sustainable forestry; and

Whereas, The development of the SFI program in this Commonwealth was challenging since the majority of private forestland in this Commonwealth is owned by more than 500,000 nonindustrial private forest landowners; and

Whereas, The early focus of the SIC was the establishment of a logger training program, educational outreach to landowners and the public and the development of a Best Management Practices (BMP) monitoring system for measuring success; and

Whereas, More than 7,000 individuals have participated in the logger program over the last 20 years, with approximately 700 participants maintaining a current training status each year and some loggers having completed more than 100 hours of total training; and
Whereas, Over 26,000 landowners outreach packets have been distributed, and the information in the outreach packets is accessible to a wider audience through the SFI website; and

Whereas, The benefits of the training program were further recognized and bolstered when the Bureau of Forestry adopted a policy in 2007 that required all commercial timber harvesting activities on the Commonwealth’s 2.2 million acres of forestland to be led by an SFI trained logger; and

Whereas, More recently, the Pennsylvania Game Commission has also recognized the benefits of the training program and encourages its loggers to also participate; and

Whereas, People of all ages and backgrounds from across the United States and Canada came together last month to break the Guinness World Record for the most trees planted in one hour by small teams; and

Whereas, Organized by the national SFI, more than 200,000 trees were planted simultaneously in 28 different communities; and

Whereas, Two groups of representatives from the forest products industry, the Bureau of Forestry and other groups were part of the Pennsylvania effort, which included 45 planters and 8,957 trees planted in the Moxahannock State Forest and 56 planters and 3,366 trees planted in the Tuscarora State Forest; therefore be it

Resolved, That the Senate designate June 5, 2015, as "PA Sustainable Forestry Initiative Day" in Pennsylvania.

I certify that the foregoing is a true and correct copy of Senate Resolution No. 144, introduced by Senators Scott E. Hutchinson, Stewart J. Greenleaf, Don White, Christine M. Tartaglione, Gene Yaw and Jay Costa, and adopted by the Senate of the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania the third day of June, in the year of our Lord, two thousand fifteen.

Attest:

[Signature]
Megan Tolino Considine, Secretary
Whereas, In October 1994, the American Forest & Paper Association (AF&PA) announced a landmark program for its membership, the Sustainable Forestry Initiative (SFI); and

Whereas, The Pennsylvania SFI Implementation Committee (SIC) was formed in 1995 and began meeting monthly in State College; and

Whereas, It was quickly decided that the Hardwood Lumber Manufacturers Association of Pennsylvania, which is now the Pennsylvania Forest Products Association, would house and provide administrative support to the newly formed SIC; and

Whereas, The guidelines required that AF&PA members practice sustainable forestry on their own lands and educate loggers and nonindustrial landowners on sustainable forestry; and

Whereas, Given that the majority of private forestland in this Commonwealth is owned by more than one-half million nonindustrial private forest landowners, it was a challenge to develop the SFI program; and

Whereas, The early focus of the SIC was the establishment of a logger training program, educational outreach to landowners and the public and the development of a Best Management Practices (BMP) monitoring system for measuring success; and

Whereas, More than 7,000 individuals have participated in the logger program over the last 20 years, with approximately 700 participants maintaining a current training status each year and some loggers having completed more than 100 hours of total training; and

Whereas, Over 26,000 landowner outreach packets have been distributed, and the information in the outreach packets is accessible to a wider audience through the SFI website; and
Whereas, The benefits of the training program were further recognized and bolstered when the Bureau of Forestry adopted a policy in 2007 that required all commercial timber harvesting activities on the Commonwealth's 2.2 million acres of forestland to be led by an SFJ trained logger; and

Whereas, More recently, the Pennsylvania Game Commission has also recognized the benefits of the training program and encourages its loggers to also participate; and

Whereas, People of all ages and backgrounds from across the United States and Canada came together last month to break the Guinness World Record for the most trees planted in one hour by small teams; and

Whereas, Organized by the national SFJ, more than 200,000 trees were planted simultaneously in 28 different communities. Two groups of representatives from industry, the Pennsylvania Bureau of Forestry and other groups were part of the Pennsylvania effort, which included 45 planters and 3,957 trees planted in the Moshannon State Forest and 56 planters and 3,366 trees planted in the Tuscarora State Forest; therefore be it

Resolved, That the House of Representatives designate June 5, 2015, as "PA Sustainable Forestry Initiative Day" in Pennsylvania.

I certify that the foregoing is a true and correct copy of House Resolution No. 375, introduced by Rapp, Causer, Dush, Gabler, Sankey, Sonney, Baker, Millard, Roadshow, Digirolamo, Kirkland, Cohen, Vereb, Tusina, Markert, Boback, A. Harris, Rozzi, Wheeland, Hennessy, Mart, Irvin, Grove, Thomas, Gibbons, Everett, Jozwiak, Youngblood, Zimmerman, Watson, Donatucci and O'neill.

Mike Turzai, Speaker