PRINTER'S NO. 1469

THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF PENNSYLVANIA

SENATE RESOLUTION

No. 193 Session of 2009

INTRODUCED BY RAFFERTY, DINNIMAN AND STACK, OCTOBER 6, 2009

INTRODUCED AND ADOPTED, OCTOBER 6, 2009

A RESOLUTION

Designating October 13, 2009, as "Schuylkill River Day" in Pottstown, Montgomery County, Pennsylvania.

WHEREAS, The Schuylkill River Heritage Area is partnering with Montgomery County Community College and other community organizations to bring the Schuylkill River Festival to Pottstown, Montgomery County, on October 13, 2009; and

WHEREAS, The Schuylkill River Heritage Area is dedicated to assisting communities, organizations and citizens of the Schuylkill River region to preserve and sustain their cultural heritage and natural environment for future generations; and

WHEREAS, Few places in America can claim the Schuylkill River Valley's importance in history. A variety of peoples, from the Lenni Lenapi to the first European settlers to the many other ethnic groups who migrated to the Schuylkill region over time, have called the River Valley home. Its abundant natural resources and productive soils made it an early industrial center and breadbasket for the colonies; and

WHEREAS, The Schuylkill River and canal system were major

arteries of the Industrial Revolution, transporting coal, manufactured goods and crops to the port of Philadelphia; and

WHEREAS, Today the Schuylkill River Valley is a diverse and dynamic region, the River Valley's five counties of Berks, Chester, Montgomery, Philadelphia and Schuylkill, inhabited by some 3.2 million people. The valley boasts abundant cultural, natural and recreational resources; landmark sites of national significance; and historic communities and landscapes with uncounted stories to tell of the region's heritage; and

WHEREAS, In 1995, the Commonwealth designated the Schuylkill River and its major tributaries as a Heritage Corridor under the Heritage Parks Program and the Schuylkill Heritage Corridor Management Action Plan was approved; and

WHEREAS, In 2000, the Congress of the United States acknowledged the River Valley's national significance by designating it as the Schuylkill River Valley National Heritage Area. As established by Congress, the mission of the heritage area is to conserve, interpret and develop the historical, cultural, natural and recreational resources related to the industrial and cultural heritage of the Schuylkill River Valley; and

WHEREAS, The partnership of Montgomery County Community College and the Schuylkill River Greenway Association is vital to the conservation of the Schuylkill River Valley Heritage Association as designated by Congress; and

WHEREAS, The Schuylkill River Festival will promote the history and value of the Schuylkill River Valley; therefore be it

RESOLVED, That the Senate designate October 13, 2009, as "Schuylkill River Day" in Pottstown, Montgomery County,

1 Pennsylvania.