
THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF PENNSYLVANIA

HOUSE RESOLUTION

No. 352 Session of
2024

INTRODUCED BY KHAN, FRANKEL, WAXMAN, KAZEEM, FREEMAN, GREEN,
SHUSTERMAN, SIEGEL, SOLOMON, SCHLOSSBERG, SALISBURY, GERGELY,
SANCHEZ, VENKAT, RABB, KINSEY, HADDOCK, McNEILL, PIELLI,
MALAGARI, HOHENSTEIN, CEPEDA-FREYTIZ, BOYD, CIRESI, MERSKI,
D. WILLIAMS, DELLOSO, KRAJEWSKI, KENYATTA, BOROWSKI, PROBST,
O'MARA, GUENST, PARKER AND HILL-EVANS, MARCH 26, 2024

REFERRED TO COMMITTEE ON TOURISM AND ECONOMIC AND RECREATIONAL
DEVELOPMENT, MARCH 26, 2024

A RESOLUTION

1 Designating the month of July 2024 as "Muslim Heritage and
2 Appreciation Month" in Pennsylvania.

3 WHEREAS, This Commonwealth takes great pride in the varied
4 religious and cultural traditions of its residents and seeks to
5 afford all residents the opportunity to better understand,
6 recognize and appreciate the rich histories, cultures and shared
7 principles of Muslim Americans; and

8 WHEREAS, Muslims are the world's second-largest religious
9 group, with more than 2 billion adherents, representing
10 approximately 25% of the world's population; and

11 WHEREAS, Muslims have made significant contributions that
12 shape our world, including notable achievements in philosophy,
13 mathematics, astronomy, physics, chemistry, medicine,
14 architecture, music, literature, athletics and the arts; and

15 WHEREAS, The 3.85 million Muslims in the United States come

1 from diverse racial and ethnic backgrounds, including African-
2 American Muslims, immigrants and native-born Americans, and
3 represent approximately 1.2% of the country's population; and

4 WHEREAS, The history of Muslims in the United States dates
5 back to before the country's founding, originating with enslaved
6 Africans, of whom scholars estimate as many as 30% were Muslim,
7 who brought Islamic beliefs and practices with them and
8 contributed in numerous ways to the founding of the nation,
9 including courageous and dedicated military service in every
10 major American war from the Revolutionary War until today; and

11 WHEREAS, The long presence of African-American Muslim
12 populations in this Commonwealth has key historical
13 significance, with leading figures such as Muhammad Ali, Malcolm
14 X and Imam Warith Deen Mohammed having lived in this
15 Commonwealth; and

16 WHEREAS, Successive waves of Muslim immigrants from all over
17 the world have enriched American society; and

18 WHEREAS, Muslim Americans strive to promote peace and mutual
19 understanding between all faiths and identities while upholding
20 the values and principles of Islam and those of the United
21 States; and

22 WHEREAS, There are hundreds of thousands of Muslim Americans
23 in this Commonwealth, representing one of the largest Muslim
24 American populations of any state in the United States,
25 including numerous current and former elected officials
26 dedicated to public service in their communities; and

27 WHEREAS, Incidents of anti-Muslim violence and rhetoric are
28 still prevalent in our country and this Commonwealth, and
29 educational initiatives are critical to combating bigotry; and

30 WHEREAS, The residents of this Commonwealth benefit from the

1 patriotism, philanthropy, humanitarianism, advocacy, civic
2 engagement, culture and business of Muslim Americans and Muslim-
3 American organizations that operate in this Commonwealth; and

4 WHEREAS, This Commonwealth recognizes the positive impact
5 Muslims have made, and continue to make, to the advancement of
6 this Commonwealth and the nation; and

7 WHEREAS, It is appropriate to acknowledge and promote
8 awareness and appreciation of the myriad invaluable
9 contributions of American Muslims in this Commonwealth and
10 across the country, and extend to them the respect and
11 camaraderie every American deserves; therefore be it

12 RESOLVED, That the House of Representatives designate the
13 month of July 2024 as "Muslim Heritage and Appreciation Month"
14 in Pennsylvania; and be it further

15 RESOLVED, That the House of Representatives acknowledge and
16 promote awareness and appreciation of Muslim Americans and
17 recognize the many contributions of this Commonwealth's Muslim
18 community.