

THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF PENNSYLVANIA

HOUSE RESOLUTION

No. 904 Session of 2014

INTRODUCED BY MATZIE, CUTLER, SCHLOSSBERG, MIRABITO, MILLARD, BROWNLEE, KINSEY, LUCAS, SCHLEGEL CULVER, HENNESSEY, DIGIROLAMO, BIZZARRO, PICKETT, CALTAGIRONE, SONNEY, GIBBONS, RAVENSTAHL, SNYDER, STERN, KIRKLAND, READSHAW, MARSHALL, BURNS, FREEMAN, O'BRIEN, MAHONEY, BOBACK, O'NEILL, COHEN, P. DALEY, D. COSTA, GINGRICH, McNEILL, DeLUCA, YOUNGBLOOD, MARSICO, FEE, V. BROWN, EVERETT, MAJOR, KORTZ, KAVULICH, KOTIK, DONATUCCI, McCARTER AND KULA, JUNE 17, 2014

INTRODUCED AS NONCONTROVERSIAL RESOLUTION UNDER RULE 35, JUNE 17, 2014

A RESOLUTION

1 Designating the week of June 16 through 23, 2014, as "Pollinator
2 Week" in Pennsylvania.

3 WHEREAS, Pollinator species such as birds and insects,
4 including bees, are essential partners of farmers and ranchers
5 in producing much of our food supply; and

6 WHEREAS, Pollination plays a vital role in the health of our
7 national forests and grasslands, which provide forage, fish and
8 wildlife, timber, water, mineral resources and recreational
9 opportunities, as well as enhanced economic development
10 opportunities for communities; and

11 WHEREAS, Pollinator species, such as bees, provide
12 significant environmental benefits that are necessary for
13 maintaining healthy, biodiverse ecosystems; and

14 WHEREAS, The Commonwealth has managed wildlife habitats and

1 public lands such as forests and grasslands for decades; and

2 WHEREAS, The Bee Law, which appears in Chapter 21 of Title 3
3 of the Pennsylvania Consolidated Statutes, and other laws and
4 regulatory means provide producers with conservation assistance
5 to promote wise conservation stewardship, including the
6 protection and maintenance of pollinators and their habitats on
7 working lands and wildlands and, through the Department of
8 Agriculture, register and regulate each apiary; and

9 WHEREAS, The Pennsylvania State Beekeepers Association works
10 with the Department of Agriculture to promote pollination,
11 beekeeping and the production of honey; and

12 WHEREAS, Among its activities, the association:

13 (1) produces a newsletter ten times per year;

14 (2) meets twice yearly to conduct business;

15 (3) operates a booth at the Pennsylvania Farm Show and
16 Ag Progress Days to promote honey and beekeeping;

17 (4) maintains an education program to inspire new
18 beekeepers and to continue to investigate avenues to provide
19 information to more accomplished beekeepers;

20 (5) supports Delaware Valley College and The
21 Pennsylvania State University in projects, staff and grant
22 requests that further research and continually promote
23 beekeeping; and

24 (6) operates the Honey Queen Program to promote honey
25 and to provide beekeepers across this Commonwealth with a
26 resource person to assist in promoting honey in local areas;

27 and

28 WHEREAS, The Pollinator Partnership is a nonprofit
29 organization that protects the health of managed and native
30 pollinating animals vital to North American ecosystems and

1 agriculture; and

2 WHEREAS, The Pollinator Partnership collaborates with
3 stakeholders who manage or influence landscapes to do a better
4 job of sharing the landscape with pollinators; and

5 WHEREAS, The Pollinator Partnership's mission is to protect
6 pollinators critical to food and ecosystems through
7 conservation, education and research through a National
8 Pollinator Week, a North American Pollinator Protection Campaign
9 and Ecoregional Planting Guides; therefore be it

10 RESOLVED, That the House of Representatives designate the
11 week of June 16 through 23, 2014, as "Pollinator Week" in
12 Pennsylvania; and be it further

13 RESOLVED, That the House of Representatives congratulate the
14 Pennsylvania State Beekeepers Association, The Pennsylvania
15 State University Cooperative Extension, Delaware Valley College
16 and the Department of Agriculture for their cooperative efforts
17 to promote pollination, beekeeping and the production of honey;
18 and be it further

19 RESOLVED, That the House of Representatives support the
20 efforts of the Pollination Partnership to annually observe a
21 National Pollinator Week; and be it further

22 RESOLVED, That the House of Representatives urge the Governor
23 to issue a proclamation urging all citizens to recognize this
24 observance; and be it further

25 RESOLVED, That a copy of this resolution be transmitted to
26 the Governor, the Department of Agriculture, the Pennsylvania
27 Beekeepers Association and the Pollination Partnership.