
THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF PENNSYLVANIA

HOUSE RESOLUTION

No. 923 Session of
2018

INTRODUCED BY MURT, BIZZARRO, BURNS, CALTAGIRONE, SCHLEGEL
CULVER, DEAN, DIGIROLAMO, DONATUCCI, EVERETT, FREEMAN,
HENNESSEY, HILL-EVANS, LONGIETTI, MATZIE, MILLARD, NEILSON,
PASHINSKI, QUIGLEY, M. QUINN, READSHAW, SAYLOR, SCHWEYER,
STAATS, TOOHIL, WARD AND WARREN, MAY 17, 2018

INTRODUCED AS NONCONTROVERSIAL RESOLUTION UNDER RULE 35,
MAY 17, 2018

A RESOLUTION

1 Designating May 14, 2018, as "National History Day in
2 Pennsylvania."

3 WHEREAS, "National History Day in Pennsylvania" is the
4 Commonwealth's component of a national, yearlong, classroom-
5 based program that engages students in hands-on historical
6 research and exploration; and

7 WHEREAS, Approximately 12,000 students participate on an
8 annual basis with the support of their school peers, teachers
9 and parents; and

10 WHEREAS, After competing successfully at the local and
11 regional contests, more than 1,100 students, teachers, parents
12 and family members are gathering on this date for the 2018
13 "National History Day in Pennsylvania" State contest; and

14 WHEREAS, The winners of the State contest will comprise the
15 Pennsylvania delegation to the national contest at the
16 University of Maryland, College Park, Maryland, from June 10

1 through June 14, 2018; and

2 WHEREAS, Approximately 120 community volunteers donate their
3 time as judges and staff for the State contest, and there are
4 more than 650 volunteers for the regional contests on an annual
5 basis; and

6 WHEREAS, The Army Heritage Center Foundation, which is
7 recognized as an educational improvement organization by the
8 Department of Education, provides Statewide oversight and
9 management of the Commonwealth's program and contest; and

10 WHEREAS, "National History Day in Pennsylvania" is recognized
11 as an innovative educational program by the Pennsylvania
12 Department of Education; and

13 WHEREAS, "National History Day in Pennsylvania" is
14 represented throughout this Commonwealth by 12 regional
15 affiliates that coordinate activities in 57 counties across this
16 Commonwealth; and

17 WHEREAS, The regional affiliates are Edinboro University of
18 Pennsylvania, Misericordia University, Westminster College,
19 Indiana University of Pennsylvania, Central Intermediate Unit
20 #10, Jim Thorpe Area High School, the Senator John Heinz History
21 Center, Messiah College, the Chester County Historical Society,
22 the Bucks County Historical Society, the East Petersburg Lions
23 Club and the National Archives at Philadelphia; and

24 WHEREAS, The "National History Day in Pennsylvania" program
25 is a 2011 recipient of the National Humanities Medal, and is
26 endorsed by the American Association for State and Local
27 History, the American Historical Association, the Federation of
28 State Humanities Councils, the National Association of Secondary
29 School Principals, the National Center for History in the
30 Schools, the National Council for History Education, the

1 National Council for the Social Studies, the Organization of
2 American Historians and the Society of American Archivists; and

3 WHEREAS, A 2010 study by Rockman et al shows that "National
4 History Day" students outperform their peers on standardized
5 achievement tests, are better writers, develop better critical
6 thinking skills and learn 21st century skills; and

7 WHEREAS, Students who participate in "National History Day in
8 Pennsylvania" are better prepared for college and careers;
9 therefore be it

10 RESOLVED, That the House of Representatives designate May 14,
11 2018, as "National History Day in Pennsylvania" and encourage
12 students, teachers and other residents of this Commonwealth to
13 participate in the "National History Day in Pennsylvania"
14 program.