
THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF PENNSYLVANIA

HOUSE RESOLUTION

No. 104 Session of
2023

INTRODUCED BY STURLA, HILL-EVANS, BENNINGHOFF, KINSEY, SANCHEZ,
HOWARD, FLEMING, MALAGARI, TAKAC, VITALI, HADDOCK, CERRATO,
MENTZER AND KHAN, MAY 10, 2023

REFERRED TO COMMITTEE ON ENVIRONMENTAL RESOURCES AND ENERGY,
MAY 10, 2023

A RESOLUTION

1 Designating the week of June 4 through 10, 2023, as "Chesapeake
2 Bay Awareness Week" in Pennsylvania.

3 WHEREAS, The Chesapeake Bay is the largest and most
4 productive estuary in the United States, with its watershed
5 spanning six states and the District of Columbia; and

6 WHEREAS, The Chesapeake Bay is fed by 50 major tributaries,
7 the largest being the Susquehanna River, which provides 50% of
8 the fresh water to the bay; and

9 WHEREAS, The Chesapeake Bay's tributaries in this
10 Commonwealth are an important source of drinking water and
11 recreational fishing and boating for this Commonwealth; and

12 WHEREAS, The Chesapeake Bay watershed covers 64,000 square
13 miles, which encompasses half of this Commonwealth; and

14 WHEREAS, The Chesapeake Bay watershed is an extraordinary and
15 vital natural resource, with some of the nation's most
16 productive farm and forest lands in this Commonwealth's portion
17 of the watershed; and

1 WHEREAS, The Chesapeake Bay supports 348 species of finfish,
2 173 species of shellfish and more than 3,600 species of plant
3 and animal life, including 2,700 types of plants and more than
4 16 species of underwater grasses; and

5 WHEREAS, The Chesapeake Bay produces more than 500 million
6 pounds of seafood harvest each year; and

7 WHEREAS, This productivity supported the settlement and
8 growth of our nation and is a vital resource for future
9 generations; and

10 WHEREAS, The Chesapeake Bay area is home to more than 18
11 million people, many of whom rely upon the bay for their
12 livelihood and recreational activities; and

13 WHEREAS, The rich history, pivotal economic importance and
14 astounding beauty of the Chesapeake Bay watershed never cease to
15 amaze residents and visitors alike; and

16 WHEREAS, The year 2023 marks the 40th anniversary of the
17 Chesapeake Bay Program, a partnership between the Federal
18 Government, states, the Chesapeake Bay watershed and the
19 Chesapeake Bay Commission to coordinate science and policy
20 across jurisdictions; and

21 WHEREAS, All residents of this Commonwealth are encouraged to
22 commemorate "Chesapeake Bay Awareness Week" with events and
23 educational programs designed to increase awareness of the
24 importance of the Chesapeake Bay and its tributaries to this
25 Commonwealth, the region and the United States; therefore be it

26 RESOLVED, That the House of Representatives designate the
27 week of June 4 through 10, 2023, as "Chesapeake Bay Awareness
28 Week" in Pennsylvania.