
THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF PENNSYLVANIA

HOUSE RESOLUTION

No. 18 Session of
2021

INTRODUCED BY BURGOS, SANCHEZ, N. NELSON, HILL-EVANS, ISAACSON,
NEILSON, McNEILL, GALLOWAY, BURNS, WEBSTER, HOHENSTEIN,
SAMUELSON, SCHWEYER, LEE, JOZWIAK, DELLOSO AND KENYATTA,
JANUARY 25, 2021

REFERRED TO COMMITTEE ON STATE GOVERNMENT, JANUARY 25, 2021

A RESOLUTION

1 Recognizing February 27, 2021, as "Dominican Republic
2 Independence Day" in Pennsylvania.

3 WHEREAS, On February 27, 2021, the Dominican Republic is
4 celebrating the anniversary of its independence from Haiti in
5 1844; and

6 WHEREAS, Before the Dominican Republic declared its
7 independence, the shared island of Hispaniola had been under
8 Haitian rule for more than two decades after centuries of
9 colonialism, first by the Spanish and then by the French; and

10 WHEREAS, Nationalist Juan Pablo Duarte helped organize the
11 war against the Haitian regime and is considered one of the
12 Dominican Republic's founding fathers; and

13 WHEREAS, "Dominican Republic Independence Day" coincides with
14 Carnival, which is celebrated the entire month of February with
15 parades, competitions and spirited events; and

16 WHEREAS, The Dominican Republic is an important partner to
17 the United States in hemispheric affairs due to its standing as

1 the Caribbean's second-largest economy and third-largest country
2 in terms of population and land mass, its large bilateral trade
3 with the United States and its proximity to the United States
4 and other Caribbean nations; and

5 WHEREAS, The family unit within Dominican society is
6 incredibly important and has formed the basis of stability
7 throughout all of the Dominican Republic's political and
8 economic upheaval; and

9 WHEREAS, Whenever possible the extended family, which usually
10 encompasses three generations, lives within the same vicinity;
11 and

12 WHEREAS, Family loyalty is a deeply ingrained characteristic
13 of the Dominican people; and

14 WHEREAS, The Dominican Republic is well known as the homeland
15 of much of Major League Baseball, but it is also known for
16 fashion designer Oscar de la Renta, "Orange is The New Black"
17 actress Dascha Polanco, Maryland State Delegate Joseline Peña-
18 Melnyk, NASA aerospace engineer and inventor Dr. Victor Carreño,
19 Pulitzer Prize-winning novelist Junot Díaz and countless other
20 accomplished individuals; and

21 WHEREAS, Dominicans are the fifth-largest population of
22 Hispanic origin living in the United States; and

23 WHEREAS, The Dominican-American community contributes to our
24 nation's economic vitality and culture while maintaining a deep
25 connection with its Dominican roots; therefore be it

26 RESOLVED, That the House of Representatives recognize
27 February 27, 2021, as "Dominican Republic Independence Day" in
28 Pennsylvania.