
THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF PENNSYLVANIA

HOUSE RESOLUTION

No. 231 Session of
2023

INTRODUCED BY CIRESI, T. DAVIS, ARMANINI, MUSTELLO, BRENNAN,
McNEILL, KINSEY, HILL-EVANS, PROBST, BRIGGS, ROWE, DELLOSO,
PICKETT, PIELLI, CEPEDA-FREYTIZ, MERSKI, RABB, GUENST,
SANCHEZ, ROZZI, HOWARD, MENTZER, ABNEY, HADDOCK AND
D. WILLIAMS, OCTOBER 3, 2023

REFERRED TO COMMITTEE ON STATE GOVERNMENT, OCTOBER 3, 2023

A RESOLUTION

1 Recognizing the month of October 2023 as "Italian-American
2 Heritage Month" in Pennsylvania.

3 WHEREAS, In October 1492, a three-ship expedition led by
4 Italian explorer Christopher Columbus reached the shores of what
5 he named San Salvador, now in the Bahamas, bringing forth a new
6 era of exploration in the Americas; and

7 WHEREAS, The American continents are named after an Italian,
8 the explorer and geographer Amerigo Vespucci; and

9 WHEREAS, Italian-Americans have defended the liberty and
10 integrity of the United States since the Revolutionary War; and

11 WHEREAS, The phrase in the Declaration of Independence "All
12 men are created equal" was paraphrased from the writings of
13 Italian immigrant and American patriot Filippo Mazzei; and

14 WHEREAS, Two of the original signers of the Declaration of
15 Independence, William Paca and Caesar Rodney, were believed to
16 have been of Italian descent; and

1 WHEREAS, An estimated 5.5 million Italians immigrated to the
2 United States between 1820 and 2004; and

3 WHEREAS, Today there are more than 18 million Americans of
4 Italian descent in the United States, making them the fourth-
5 largest ethnic group; and

6 WHEREAS, The Italian-American community has strong roots in
7 Pennsylvania; and

8 WHEREAS, The City of Philadelphia remains the second-largest
9 Italian-American community in the country; and

10 WHEREAS, The recent 2020 census along with the 2021 American
11 Community Survey reported that approximately 1.7 million
12 Pennsylvanians have Italian ancestry; and

13 WHEREAS, Italian-Americans have made and continue to make
14 important contributions to this Commonwealth; therefore be it

15 RESOLVED, That the House of Representatives recognize the
16 month of October 2023 as "Italian-American Heritage Month" in
17 Pennsylvania and commend the early immigrants for their
18 important role in our Commonwealth's history.