

THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF PENNSYLVANIA

HOUSE RESOLUTION

No. 274 Session of 2023

INTRODUCED BY KIM, BRENNAN, DELLOSO, DONAHUE, FREEMAN, GIRAL, HANBIDGE, HILL-EVANS, KINSEY, MADDEN, MALAGARI, MENTZER, PICKETT, PIELLI, POWELL, SANCHEZ, SCHLOSSBERG, VENKAT, STEELE AND CEPEDA-FREYTIZ, DECEMBER 8, 2023

REFERRED TO COMMITTEE ON STATE GOVERNMENT, DECEMBER 8, 2023

A RESOLUTION

1 Recognizing January 13, 2024, as "Korean American Day" in
2 Pennsylvania.

3 WHEREAS, The first wave of Korean immigrants to the United
4 States, comprised of 102 people, arrived in Honolulu, Hawaii, on
5 January 13, 1903; and

6 WHEREAS, Today, nearly 2 million people of Korean descent
7 live throughout the United States and are part of a vibrant,
8 growing Korean American community; and

9 WHEREAS, These pioneer Korean immigrants faced tremendous
10 social and economic obstacles as well as language barriers in
11 America, the land of opportunity; and

12 WHEREAS, In pursuit of the American dream, Korean immigrants
13 initially served as farm workers, wage laborers and section
14 hands throughout the United States; and

15 WHEREAS, First-generation Korean immigrants established a new
16 home in a new land through resilience, tenacious effort and
17 immense sacrifice, which became the bedrock for their children

1 and future generations of Korean Americans; and

2 WHEREAS, President George W. Bush issued a proclamation
3 recognizing January 13, 2003, as the anniversary of the
4 Centennial of Korean Immigration to the United States; and

5 WHEREAS, The proclamation called upon all Americans to
6 observe the anniversary with appropriate programs, ceremonies,
7 and activities honoring contributions of Korean immigrants and
8 their descendants, especially their courageous service in World
9 War I, World War II, the Korean Conflict, the Vietnam War and
10 other wars to defend and uphold our American values; and

11 WHEREAS, In 2005, the Congress of the United States adopted
12 Senate Resolution 283 and House Resolution 487, both of which
13 supported the goals and ideals of "Korean American Day"; and

14 WHEREAS, The year 2024 marks the 71st anniversary of the
15 alliance between the United States and the Republic of Korea;
16 and

17 WHEREAS, The Korean-American community wishes to provide a
18 meaningful opportunity to foster an understanding of the many
19 achievements of the Korean-American community which have been
20 intrinsically woven in the American experience; and

21 WHEREAS, The Centennial Committees of Korean Immigration and
22 Korean Americans have designated January 13 of each year as
23 "Korean American Day" to commemorate the first step of the long
24 and prosperous journey of Korean Americans in the United States;
25 therefore be it

26 RESOLVED, That the House of Representatives recognize January
27 13, 2024, as "Korean American Day" in Pennsylvania; and be it
28 further

29 RESOLVED, That the House of Representatives celebrate the
30 proud heritage of Korean Americans and their invaluable

1 contributions to all facets of American life; and be it further

2 RESOLVED, That the House of Representatives urge all
3 Americans to observe "Korean American Day" so as to have a
4 greater appreciation of the invaluable contributions Korean
5 Americans have made to the United States; and be it further

6 RESOLVED, That the House of Representatives honor and
7 recognize the 121st anniversary of the arrival of the first
8 Korean immigrants to the United States.