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THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF PENNSYLVANIA

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HOUSE RESOLUTION

No. 61 Session of 2023

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INTRODUCED BY STURLA, IRVIN, FLICK, MALAGARI, CEPEDA-FREYTIZ,  
McANDREW, HILL-EVANS, KHAN, BULLOCK, FREEMAN, HADDOCK,  
NEILSON, TAKAC, SANCHEZ, TWARDZIK, SMITH-WADE-EL, CONKLIN AND  
MEHAFFIE, APRIL 3, 2023

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REFERRED TO COMMITTEE ON HOUSING AND COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT,  
APRIL 3, 2023

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A RESOLUTION

1 Designating May 3, 2023, as "Pennsylvania Housing Finance Agency  
2 Day" in Pennsylvania.

3 WHEREAS, The Pennsylvania Housing Finance Agency (PHFA) was  
4 created by legislative statute in 1972 to expand affordable  
5 housing opportunities for Pennsylvania residents; and

6 WHEREAS, PHFA works to provide affordable housing options for  
7 seniors, low-income and moderate-income families and people with  
8 special housing needs; and

9 WHEREAS, Since 1982, PHFA has provided affordable home loans,  
10 helping hundreds of thousands of Pennsylvanians ready for the  
11 responsibility and advantages of homeownership; and

12 WHEREAS, PHFA helps homebuyers and homeowners to purchase and  
13 improve their homes with closing cost and down payment  
14 assistance, home accessibility loans, energy-efficiency  
15 improvement financing and affordable loans for public sewer  
16 connections and on-lot septic systems; and

1       WHEREAS, PHFA is the administrator of Federal Low Income  
2 Housing Tax Credits that for decades has helped fund the  
3 construction of thousands of affordable rental units across this  
4 Commonwealth; and

5       WHEREAS, PHFA led the effort to launch PAHousingSearch.com in  
6 this Commonwealth, helping the State's residents find rental  
7 housing in their community that best fits their needs and their  
8 budget; and

9       WHEREAS, PHFA works to encourage supportive services for  
10 seniors to help them live independently longer and avoid  
11 institutional housing; and

12       WHEREAS, Since 2012, PHFA has administered the Pennsylvania  
13 Housing Affordability and Rehabilitation Enhancement Fund,  
14 providing hundreds of millions of dollars in financial  
15 assistance to support impactful local housing initiatives in all  
16 67 counties; and

17       WHEREAS, Since 1983, PHFA has administered the Homeowners'  
18 Emergency Mortgage Assistance Program, which has become a  
19 national model for foreclosure prevention; and

20       WHEREAS, PHFA has created a Statewide housing counseling  
21 network that provides housing, homebuying, foreclosure  
22 prevention and personal money management counseling at no cost  
23 to the Commonwealth's residents, helping them make smarter  
24 housing choices; and

25       WHEREAS, PHFA's community development arm, Commonwealth  
26 Cornerstone group, administers Federal New Markets Tax Credits  
27 to fund mixed-used developments that spark economic  
28 revitalization in low-income and rural communities across this  
29 Commonwealth; and

30       WHEREAS, PHFA regularly partners with Federal Home Loan Bank

1 Pittsburgh to fund programs Statewide that help individuals and  
2 families facing homelessness; and

3 WHEREAS, PHFA annually supports a Housing Policy Fellowship  
4 and regularly funds critical housing research that it shares  
5 publicly to help guide housing policy decisions in this  
6 Commonwealth; and

7 WHEREAS, PHFA runs a call center and conducts extensive  
8 public outreach to inform this Commonwealth's residents of its  
9 many helpful housing services and programs; and

10 WHEREAS, PHFA programs and operations are funded primarily  
11 through the sale of securities and from fees paid by program  
12 users, not by public tax dollars; and

13 WHEREAS, Since its creation, PHFA has generated more than  
14 \$16.9 billion of funding for more than 191,870 single-family  
15 home mortgage loans, helped fund the construction of 103,328  
16 rental units, distributed approximately \$239 million to support  
17 local housing initiatives and saved the homes of more than  
18 50,660 families from foreclosure; and

19 WHEREAS, The Executive Director and CEO of PHFA is currently  
20 Robin L. Wiessmann, who took over in 2020 after the retirement  
21 of longtime Executive Director and CEO Brian Hudson; therefore  
22 be it

23 RESOLVED, That the House of Representatives recognize May 3,  
24 2023, as "Pennsylvania Housing and Finance Agency Day" in  
25 Pennsylvania; and be it further

26 RESOLVED, That the House of Representatives congratulate the  
27 Pennsylvania Housing Finance Agency Director and CEO Robin L.  
28 Wiessmann and celebrate the work the agency has done to make  
29 this Commonwealth a better place to live while fostering  
30 community and economic development and providing capital for

1 decent, safe and affordable homes and apartments for older  
2 adults, people of modest means and those with special housing  
3 needs.