

THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF PENNSYLVANIA

HOUSE RESOLUTION

No. 811 Session of 2014

INTRODUCED BY CLYMER, READSHAW, O'BRIEN, PICKETT, EMRICK, SONNEY, LONGIETTI, SCHLOSSBERG, ENGLISH, MIRABITO, KNOWLES, KIRKLAND, BOBACK, KOTIK, CAUSER, HENNESSEY, FREEMAN, MCCARTER, COHEN, LUCAS, HEFFLEY, MCGEEHAN, CUTLER, MILLARD, MALONEY, KINSEY, HAHN, MOLCHANY, MCNEILL, KILLION, CALTAGIRONE, THOMAS, DAVIS, YOUNGBLOOD, SACCONI, RAPP, WHEATLEY, STERN, DIGIROLAMO, O'NEILL, KORTZ, MILNE, BAKER, ROEBUCK, DeLUCA, MARSHALL, ROSS, GINGRICH, AUMENT, KULA, GROVE, MATZIE, D. COSTA, GRELL, GOODMAN, MAJOR, FLECK, MURT, MARSICO, DONATUCCI, DENLINGER, V. BROWN, GILLEN, SCHLEGEL, CULVER, GABLER, R. BROWN, OBERLANDER, WATSON, ROCK, NEILSON, EVERETT, MARKOSEK, GODSHALL, SAYLOR, SWANGER, TOOHIL, ROZZI AND MAHER, APRIL 28, 2014

INTRODUCED AS NONCONTROVERSIAL RESOLUTION UNDER RULE 35, APRIL 28, 2014

A RESOLUTION

1 Designating Tuesday, May 13, 2014, as "National History Day in  
2 Pennsylvania."

3 WHEREAS, National History Day in Pennsylvania is the  
4 Commonwealth's component of a national, year-long, classroom-  
5 based program that engages students in hands-on historical  
6 research and exploration; and

7 WHEREAS, Approximately 12,000 students participate on an  
8 annual basis with the support of their school peers, teachers  
9 and parents; and

10 WHEREAS, After competing successfully at the local and  
11 regional contests, more than 1,100 students, teachers, parents  
12 and family members will gather on this date for the 2014

1 National History Day in the Pennsylvania State contest; and  
2 WHEREAS, The winners of the State contest will comprise the  
3 Pennsylvania delegation to the national contest at the  
4 University of Maryland, College Park, Maryland, from June 15  
5 through June 19, 2014; and

6 WHEREAS, Approximately 120 community volunteers donate their  
7 time as judges and staff for the State contest, and there are  
8 more than 650 volunteers for the regional contests on an annual  
9 basis; and

10 WHEREAS, The Army Heritage Center Foundation, which is  
11 recognized as an educational improvement organization by the  
12 Department of Education, provides Statewide oversight and  
13 management of the Commonwealth's program and contest; and

14 WHEREAS, National History Day in Pennsylvania is recognized  
15 as an innovative educational program by the Pennsylvania  
16 Department of Education; and

17 WHEREAS, National History Day in Pennsylvania is represented  
18 throughout this Commonwealth by 11 regional affiliates that  
19 coordinate activities in 57 counties across this Commonwealth;  
20 and

21 WHEREAS, The regional affiliates are Edinboro University of  
22 Pennsylvania, The Pennsylvania State University, Wilkes-Barre  
23 campus and Hazleton campus, Westminster College, Indiana  
24 University of Pennsylvania, the Heinz History Center, Messiah  
25 College, the Chester County Historical Society, the Bucks County  
26 Historical Society, the East Petersburg Lions Club and the  
27 National Archives Mid-Atlantic Region; and

28 WHEREAS, The National History Day in Pennsylvania program is  
29 a 2011 recipient of the National Medal for the Humanities and is  
30 endorsed by the American Association for State and Local

1 History, the American Historical Association, the Federation of  
2 State Humanities Councils, the National Association of Secondary  
3 School Principals, the National Center for History in the  
4 Schools, the National Council for History Education, the  
5 National Council for the Social Studies, the Organization of  
6 American Historians and the Society of American Archivists; and

7 WHEREAS, A 2010 study by Rockman, et al, shows that National  
8 History Day students outperform their peers on standardized  
9 achievement tests, are better writers, develop better critical  
10 thinking skills and learn 21st century skills; and

11 WHEREAS, Students who participate in National History Day in  
12 Pennsylvania are better prepared for college and careers;  
13 therefore be it

14 RESOLVED, That the House of Representatives designate  
15 Tuesday, May 13, 2014, as "National History Day in Pennsylvania"  
16 and encourage students, teachers and other citizens of this  
17 Commonwealth to participate in the National History Day in  
18 Pennsylvania program.