
THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF PENNSYLVANIA

HOUSE RESOLUTION

No. 831 Session of
2015

INTRODUCED BY COOK-ARTIS, KINSEY, MUSTIO, J. HARRIS, COHEN,
READSHAW, VEREB, MURT, KIRKLAND, ROSS, BURNS, SCHLOSSBERG,
WHEELAND, MILLARD, DIGIROLAMO, O'BRIEN, FREEMAN, KAUFFMAN,
DRISCOLL, SCHLEGEL CULVER, SONNEY, DUSH, NEILSON,
CALTAGIRONE, KIM, YOUNGBLOOD, PAYNE, BULLOCK, ROZZI, SAYLOR
AND MCCLINTON, APRIL 29, 2016

INTRODUCED AS NONCONTROVERSIAL RESOLUTION UNDER RULE 35,
APRIL 29, 2016

A RESOLUTION

1 Recognizing the month of May 2016 as "Older Americans: Blaze a
2 Trail Month" in Pennsylvania.

3 WHEREAS, The House of Representatives recognizes the energy,
4 aspirations and ongoing achievements of senior citizens; and

5 WHEREAS, Senior citizens are the pillars upon which our
6 families have been built; and

7 WHEREAS, The increasing population of older adults in this
8 Commonwealth reflects a dramatic nationwide trend; and

9 WHEREAS, By 2050, the number of people reaching retirement
10 age will almost double; and

11 WHEREAS, Rural residents, on average, are older than urban
12 residents in this Commonwealth; and

13 WHEREAS, The number of senior citizens in rural Pennsylvania
14 is projected to increase 58% through 2030; and

15 WHEREAS, May is traditionally recognized as "Older Americans

1 Month" in the United States; and

2 WHEREAS, The United States Department of Health and Human
3 Services Administration for Community Living has announced that
4 the theme of Older Americans Month 2016 is "Blaze a Trail"; and

5 WHEREAS, This year's theme raises awareness about important
6 issues facing older adults and highlights the ways older
7 Americans are advocating for themselves, their peers and their
8 communities; and

9 WHEREAS, This year marks the 51st anniversary of the Older
10 Americans Act, signed into law by President Lyndon Johnson in
11 1965; and

12 WHEREAS, The Older Americans Act continues to provide a
13 nationwide aging services network and funding that helps older
14 adults live with dignity in the communities of their choice for
15 as long as possible; and

16 WHEREAS, Older adults are productive, active and influential
17 members of society, often having a positive impact on the lives
18 of others through the experiences and knowledge they share; and

19 WHEREAS, Systems and services in this Commonwealth must
20 adequately address the unique needs of current and future
21 generations of older Pennsylvanians to optimize health and
22 maintain independence; and

23 WHEREAS, This Commonwealth owes a great debt to older adults
24 who, united by historical experiences and strengthened by
25 diversity, interpret events through varied perspectives and
26 backgrounds to bring wisdom and insight into our communities;
27 and

28 WHEREAS, Older adults deserve recognition for the
29 contributions they have made and continue to make to the
30 culture, economy and character of the United States and this

1 Commonwealth; therefore be it

2 RESOLVED, That the House of Representatives honor
3 Pennsylvania's senior citizens by recognizing the month of May
4 2016 as "Older Americans: Blaze a Trail Month" in Pennsylvania;
5 and be it further

6 RESOLVED, That the House of Representatives urge all
7 residents of this Commonwealth to honor senior citizens and
8 persons who care for them during the month of May and throughout
9 the year and to assist in their journeys toward optimal health
10 and quality of life.