
THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF PENNSYLVANIA

HOUSE RESOLUTION

No. 889 Session of
2014

INTRODUCED BY SANKEY, BENNINGHOFF, CALTAGIRONE, COHEN, CUTLER,
DIGIROLAMO, EVERETT, GINGRICH, GREINER, HAHN, C. HARRIS,
HENNESSEY, KAVULICH, KILLION, KINSEY, KIRKLAND, KORTZ, KULA,
LUCAS, MAHONEY, MAJOR, MARSICO, McNEILL, METZGAR, MILLARD,
MIRABITO, MURT, PAYNE, READSHAW, ROSS, THOMAS AND VEREB,
JUNE 9, 2014

INTRODUCED AS NONCONTROVERSIAL RESOLUTION UNDER RULE 35,
JUNE 9, 2014

A RESOLUTION

1 Designating July 26, 2014, as "Oval Race Track Day" in
2 Pennsylvania.

3 WHEREAS, Auto racing has been an exciting sporting and
4 entertaining event for over a century in Pennsylvania, and oval
5 track auto racing can be traced back to 1904; and

6 WHEREAS, Preceded by road racing, organized oval track auto
7 racing was often sanctioned by the American Automobile Club and
8 by car manufacturers and dealers; and

9 WHEREAS, In the early years of organized oval track auto
10 racing, horse racing tracks were used, but after World War I,
11 specially built auto tracks became the norm; and

12 WHEREAS, These were steeply banked wooden, or board, tracks
13 which appeared mainly at fairgrounds in Pennsylvania and at the
14 famed Altoona Board Track which measured one and one-quarter
15 miles in length and had 32 degrees in banking in the turns; and

1 WHEREAS, The first oiled dirt surface track opened in
2 Langhorne in 1926 and remained a one-mile dirt oval until 1965
3 when the surface was paved, although unfortunately Langhorne
4 closed after the 1971 race season; and

5 WHEREAS, Autos were modified to go faster around these
6 stylish new tracks, and crowds grew; and

7 WHEREAS, While the fairground tracks that were the common
8 venue of racing during the early part of the 20th century have
9 faded, the tradition of weekly oval track racing in Pennsylvania
10 was launched; and

11 WHEREAS, During the 1930's Midgets, or miniature versions of
12 the Indy and Big Cars, were built and, because of their smaller
13 size, could race on compact tracks, but following World War II,
14 racing went back to its original roots and stock car racing once
15 again became popular, leading to many different versions of
16 modified stock cars racing at tracks across Pennsylvania; and

17 WHEREAS, Today Pennsylvania is home to many stock-car racing
18 tracks, and Williams Grove Speedway, near Dillsburg and
19 Mechanicsburg, is the second oldest speedway in continuous use
20 in the nation, second only to Indianapolis Motor Speedway; and

21 WHEREAS, Oval track racing today in Pennsylvania includes all
22 of the various classes and circuits of automobile racing and
23 enjoys great popularity among Pennsylvanians; and

24 WHEREAS, Local race tracks and race fans are valuable assets
25 to local economies; therefore be it

26 RESOLVED, That the House of Representatives designate July
27 26, 2014, as "Oval Race Track Day" in Pennsylvania.