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THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF PENNSYLVANIA

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SENATE RESOLUTION

No. 265 Session of  
2024

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INTRODUCED BY MUTH, FONTANA, CAPPELLETTI, SAVAL, STREET,  
HAYWOOD, TARTAGLIONE, BREWSTER, SCHWANK, VOGEL, COMITTA,  
HUTCHINSON, COSTA, DILLON AND L. WILLIAMS, APRIL 12, 2024

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REFERRED TO RULES AND EXECUTIVE NOMINATIONS, APRIL 12, 2024

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A RESOLUTION

1 Recognizing the week of April 7 through 13, 2024, as "National  
2 Library Week" in Pennsylvania.

3 WHEREAS, "National Library Week" is an annual celebration  
4 highlighting the valuable roles libraries, librarians and  
5 library workers play in transforming lives and strengthening our  
6 communities; and

7 WHEREAS, When libraries were started nearly 300 years ago,  
8 books were the focus because bound publications were expensive,  
9 rare and difficult to get; and

10 WHEREAS, By the 1900s, steel magnate and philanthropist  
11 Andrew Carnegie believed that books could give ordinary people  
12 the knowledge they needed to work, so he used his money to build  
13 more than 2,500 libraries around the world; and

14 WHEREAS, In the mid-1950s, research showed that Americans  
15 were spending less on books and more on radios, televisions and  
16 musical instruments; and

17 WHEREAS, For this reason, the American Library Association

1 and the American Book Publishers formed a nonprofit citizens  
2 organization with the goal of encouraging people to read in  
3 their increasing leisure time to improve income and develop a  
4 strong and healthy family life; and

5 WHEREAS, Since 1958, the United States has celebrated  
6 "National Library Week" and the valuable contributions of the  
7 various libraries, librarians and staff and the services and  
8 resources they provide to people of all ages; and

9 WHEREAS, The theme for National Library Week 2024, "Ready,  
10 Set, Library!" promotes the idea that in our always-online  
11 world, libraries give us a place to connect with others, learn  
12 new skills and focus on what matters most; and

13 WHEREAS, Whether preparing for a new career, launching a  
14 business or raising a family, libraries provide an inclusive and  
15 supportive community where everyone belongs; and

16 WHEREAS, Libraries are a public space where all community  
17 members, regardless of age, gender identity, ethnicity or income  
18 level, can come together to connect and learn; and

19 WHEREAS, Currently, there are more than 116,000 libraries,  
20 including public, academic, school and government, in the United  
21 States; and

22 WHEREAS, For over 200 years, the Pennsylvania Senate Library  
23 has served as the major source of information on Pennsylvania  
24 government with its collection of legislative documents,  
25 journals and law books; and

26 WHEREAS, Beyond its role as a place to research, the Senate  
27 Library also serves as a resource for the numerous collections,  
28 displays and exhibits throughout the Capitol; and

29 WHEREAS, Most importantly, upholding the true representation  
30 of a library, the Senate Library is open for tours and research

1 to all General Assembly members, staff and constituents; and  
2 WHEREAS, During "National Library Week," everyone is  
3 encouraged to visit their local library and raise awareness of  
4 the value and impact the library has had on them; therefore be  
5 it

6 RESOLVED, That the Senate recognize the week of April 7  
7 through 13, 2024, as "National Library Week" in Pennsylvania.