

THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF PENNSYLVANIA

SENATE RESOLUTION

No. 305 Session of 2024

INTRODUCED BY YAW, MARTIN, COMITTA, HUGHES, BREWSTER AND VOGEL,  
JUNE 5, 2024

REFERRED TO RULES AND EXECUTIVE NOMINATIONS, JUNE 5, 2024

A RESOLUTION

1 Designating the week of June 2 through 8, 2024, as "Chesapeake  
2 Bay Awareness Week" in Pennsylvania.

3 WHEREAS, The Chesapeake Bay is the largest and most  
4 productive estuary in the United States, with its watershed  
5 spanning six states and the District of Columbia; and

6 WHEREAS, The Chesapeake Bay is fed by 50 major tributaries,  
7 the largest being the Susquehanna River, which provides 50% of  
8 the fresh water to the bay; and

9 WHEREAS, The Chesapeake Bay's tributaries in this  
10 Commonwealth are an important source of drinking water and  
11 recreational fishing and boating for Pennsylvania; and

12 WHEREAS, The Chesapeake Bay watershed covers 64,000 square  
13 miles, including half of this Commonwealth; and

14 WHEREAS, The Chesapeake Bay watershed is an extraordinary and  
15 vital natural resource, and some of the nation's most productive  
16 farm and forest lands lie in Pennsylvania's portion of the  
17 watershed; and

18 WHEREAS, The Chesapeake Bay supports 348 species of finfish,

1 173 species of shellfish and more than 3,600 species of plant  
2 and animal life, including 2,700 types of plants and more than  
3 16 species of underwater grasses; and

4 WHEREAS, The Chesapeake Bay produces more than 500 million  
5 pounds of harvested seafood each year; and

6 WHEREAS, This productivity supported the settlement and  
7 growth of our nation and is a vital resource for future  
8 generations; and

9 WHEREAS, The Chesapeake Bay area is home to more than 18  
10 million people, many of whom rely upon the bay for their  
11 livelihood and recreational activities; and

12 WHEREAS, The rich history, pivotal economic importance and  
13 astounding beauty of the Chesapeake Bay watershed never cease to  
14 amaze residents and visitors alike; and

15 WHEREAS, This year begins the fifth decade of the Chesapeake  
16 Bay Program, a partnership between the Chesapeake Bay watershed,  
17 the Federal Government, states and the Chesapeake Bay Commission  
18 to coordinate science and policy across jurisdictions; and

19 WHEREAS, All residents of this Commonwealth are encouraged to  
20 commemorate "Chesapeake Bay Awareness Week" with events and  
21 educational programs designed to increase awareness of the  
22 importance of the Chesapeake Bay and its tributaries to this  
23 Commonwealth, the region and the United States; therefore be it

24 RESOLVED, That the Senate designate the week of June 2  
25 through 8, 2024, as "Chesapeake Bay Awareness Week" in  
26 Pennsylvania.