
THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF PENNSYLVANIA

SENATE RESOLUTION

No. 389 Session of
2018

INTRODUCED BY VULAKOVICH, COSTA, ARGALL, AUMENT, BAKER,
BREWSTER, BROWNE, DINNIMAN, FOLMER, FONTANA, HUGHES, MENSCH,
RAFFERTY, SABATINA, STREET AND YUDICHAK, JUNE 12, 2018

INTRODUCED AND ADOPTED, JUNE 12, 2018

A RESOLUTION

1 Designating November 23, 2018, as "State Partnership Program
2 with Lithuania Day" in Pennsylvania.

3 WHEREAS, On April 27, 1993, the Pennsylvania National Guard
4 established a State Partnership Program (SPP) with the Republic
5 of Lithuania; and

6 WHEREAS, The SPP began with simple senior leader visits and
7 low-level familiarization exchanges and quickly grew to
8 cooperative participation in large-scale exercises and joint
9 deployments to Afghanistan; and

10 WHEREAS, Since the inception of the SPP, the Pennsylvania
11 National Guard and the Lithuanian Armed Forces have conducted
12 more than 600 security cooperation engagements and participated
13 together in numerous exercises; and

14 WHEREAS, Soldiers and airmen of the Pennsylvania National
15 Guard and Lithuanian Armed Forces have fought side by side in
16 Afghanistan during 18 joint deployments; and

17 WHEREAS, The Pennsylvania National Guard and the Lithuanian

1 Armed Forces have built a true partnership through long-term
2 relationships based on trust, professionalism and competence;
3 and

4 WHEREAS, Pennsylvania and Lithuania continue to enhance
5 regional security in Europe through collaboration and work
6 toward theater security objectives; and

7 WHEREAS, More than 5,000 soldiers and airmen from
8 Pennsylvania and Lithuania have participated in SPP events since
9 the program's inception; and

10 WHEREAS, More than 2,000 additional soldiers participate
11 through annual platoon and company exchanges; and

12 WHEREAS, The SPP has flourished for 25 years due to the
13 bilateral cooperation between the Pennsylvania National Guard
14 and the Lithuanian Armed Forces; and

15 WHEREAS, Participating troops and agencies look to the future
16 for the continued success of this partnership; therefore be it

17 RESOLVED, That the Senate designate November 23, 2018, as
18 "State Partnership Program with Lithuania Day" in Pennsylvania;
19 and be it further

20 RESOLVED, That the Senate remain resolutely committed to
21 Lithuania's security and regional stability, maintaining our
22 close relationship and supporting initiatives that are most
23 important to Lithuania; and be it further

24 RESOLVED, That the Senate join with Lithuanians in the
25 celebration of 100 years of the restoration of an independent
26 State of Lithuania.