
THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF PENNSYLVANIA

SENATE RESOLUTION

No. 475 Session of
2015

INTRODUCED BY SMUCKER, FONTANA, TEPLITZ, DINNIMAN, BROWNE,
BOSCOLA, BREWSTER, FARNESE, GREENLEAF, WHITE, RAFFERTY,
COSTA, KILLION, RESCHENTHALER AND AUMENT, OCTOBER 24, 2016

INTRODUCED AND ADOPTED, OCTOBER 24, 2016

A RESOLUTION

1 Designating November 18, 2016, as "Gifted Education Day" in
2 Pennsylvania and expressing appreciation to educators of the
3 gifted throughout this Commonwealth.

4 WHEREAS, The Pennsylvania Association for Gifted Education,
5 (PAGE) originated at a conference on gifted children and youth
6 held in State College, Pennsylvania, in May 1951; and

7 WHEREAS, The conference was organized by Margaret A. Neuber,
8 Chairperson of the Special Education Department at The
9 Pennsylvania State University, and Dr. Hedwig O. Pregler,
10 Principal of Colfax School in Pittsburgh, who were pioneers in
11 the field of gifted education; and

12 WHEREAS, The conference led to the establishment of the
13 Pennsylvania Association for the Study and Education of the
14 Mentally Gifted in May 1952; and

15 WHEREAS, On September 24, 1977, the name of the organization
16 was changed to the Pennsylvania Association for Gifted
17 Education; and

18 WHEREAS, The mission of PAGE is to empower educators and

1 parents to meet the diverse needs of gifted learners through
2 awareness, advocacy and action; and

3 WHEREAS, PAGE is a nonprofit advocacy organization dedicated
4 to helping gifted learners, parents and educators; and

5 WHEREAS, PAGE has endeavored to contribute to the educational
6 needs of gifted children in a number of ways; and

7 WHEREAS, PAGE holds conferences on an annual basis; and

8 WHEREAS, PAGE has sought to influence the Department of
9 Education and the General Assembly regarding regulations and
10 legislation on behalf of education for gifted students; and

11 WHEREAS, PAGE members have sought to encourage local boards
12 of education and administrators to develop and expand programs
13 for gifted education; and

14 WHEREAS, PAGE has been a longtime affiliate of the National
15 Association for Gifted Children; and

16 WHEREAS, PAGE celebrated its 50th anniversary at the April
17 2001 PAGE conference in Harrisburg by inviting many former PAGE
18 presidents and leaders in gifted education, focusing on building
19 for the future and honoring the work of the past; and

20 WHEREAS, Since approximately 1998, PAGE has continually
21 advocated with determination and persuasiveness for the
22 Department of Education to institute and enforce school district
23 compliance with 22 Pa. Code Ch. 16 regulations relating to
24 special education for gifted students; and

25 WHEREAS, In 2004, PAGE board members assisted the Department
26 of Education in the development and completion of the Department
27 of Education's Gifted Education Guidelines; and

28 WHEREAS, These guidelines have played an important role in
29 the development and implementation of school district programs
30 for gifted students across this Commonwealth and are used by

1 other state education agencies as a model for gifted program
2 policy and practice; and

3 WHEREAS, PAGE holds a yearly conference, the location of
4 which alternates among three areas of the State; and

5 WHEREAS, The annual conferences have become the leading
6 educational and networking events for gifted education for
7 parents and teachers in this Commonwealth; and

8 WHEREAS, The conferences feature nationally recognized
9 experts in the field of gifted education and knowledgeable State
10 presenters, who disseminate information to school district
11 personnel, parents and teachers for the betterment of gifted
12 students in this Commonwealth; and

13 WHEREAS, PAGE conferences are well respected and renowned
14 across the nation; and

15 WHEREAS, PAGE holds an annual training weekend for local
16 affiliate group leaders from across this Commonwealth to educate
17 them about relevant gifted issues and to provide leadership
18 training; therefore be it

19 RESOLVED, That the Senate designate November 18, 2016, as
20 "Gifted Education Day" in Pennsylvania and express appreciation
21 to educators of the gifted throughout this Commonwealth.