
THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF PENNSYLVANIA

SENATE RESOLUTION

No. 76 Session of
2015

INTRODUCED BY COSTA, APRIL 14, 2015

INTRODUCED AND ADOPTED, APRIL 14, 2015

A RESOLUTION

1 Designating April 2015 as "Pennsylvania Community College Month"
2 in Pennsylvania.

3 WHEREAS, For 52 years, this Commonwealth's community colleges
4 have provided accessible and affordable higher education, work
5 force training and transfer opportunities for millions of
6 Pennsylvania residents; and

7 WHEREAS, In the current year, the community colleges serve
8 more than 365,000 students across 37 of this State's counties,
9 and 93% of credit students are residents, representing all
10 counties of this Commonwealth.

11 WHEREAS, One out of every four undergraduates of this
12 Commonwealth attends a community college; and

13 WHEREAS, Community colleges offer and support dual enrollment
14 of more than 11,000 high school students, representing half of
15 this Commonwealth's school districts; and

16 WHEREAS, Community colleges serve nontraditional students,
17 part-time students, dislocated workers and veterans in this
18 Commonwealth and offer increased access through online education

1 courses and programs, allowing students to build their academic
2 credentials and certifications while maintaining their work
3 schedules and family responsibilities; and

4 WHEREAS, Community colleges offer the most affordable pathway
5 to the baccalaureate through more than 2,700 transfer and
6 articulation agreements to ensure students seamlessly transition
7 from the community college to a four-year degree, with more than
8 32,800 students transferring each year; and

9 WHEREAS, Ninety-one percent of community college graduates
10 stay in Pennsylvania to live and work; and

11 WHEREAS, Community colleges continue to graduate students in
12 many of the high-demand and high-growth industries vital to the
13 State's economy, particularly in health care, public safety,
14 manufacturing and energy; and

15 WHEREAS, Sixty-one percent of those credit programs are in
16 the Science, Technology, Engineering and Math (STEM) fields; and

17 WHEREAS, Community colleges offer individualized credit and
18 noncredit courses and programs that enhance the work force
19 pipeline and stimulate this Commonwealth's economy; and

20 WHEREAS, Community colleges have developed 74 new or
21 redesigned programs in response to regional needs of employers
22 and work force trends; and

23 WHEREAS, More than 1,100 employers throughout this
24 Commonwealth have contracted with community colleges to provide
25 training for more employees, and 30,200 employees have been
26 trained by community colleges throughout Pennsylvania; therefore
27 be it

28 RESOLVED, That the Senate designate the month of April 2015
29 as "Pennsylvania Community College Month" in Pennsylvania and
30 encourage all residents to recognize, appreciate and support the

- 1 contributions these institutions make to their communities and
- 2 our Commonwealth.