
THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF PENNSYLVANIA

SENATE RESOLUTION

No. 86 Session of
2023

INTRODUCED BY MUTH, FONTANA, SCHWANK, HUGHES, HAYWOOD, COMITTA,
BREWSTER, DILLON, COSTA, CAPPELLETTI, L. WILLIAMS AND
HUTCHINSON, APRIL 17, 2023

REFERRED TO RULES AND EXECUTIVE NOMINATIONS, APRIL 17, 2023

A RESOLUTION

1 Recognizing the week of April 23 through 29, 2023, 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 2023 theme of "National Library Week" is
10 "There's More to the Story," highlighting that libraries are
11 full of stories in a variety of formats from picture books to
12 large print, audiobooks to ebooks and more; and

13 WHEREAS, Libraries bring communities together for
14 entertainment, education and connection through book clubs,
15 storytimes, movie nights, crafting classes and lectures; and

16 WHEREAS, Libraries also provide Internet and technology
17 access, literacy skills and support for businesses, job seekers
18 and entrepreneurs; and

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

22 WHEREAS, Currently, there are more than 116,000 libraries,
23 including public, academic, school and government, in the United
24 States; and

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

29 WHEREAS, Beyond its role as a place to research, the Senate
30 Library also serves as a resource for the numerous collections,

1 displays and exhibits throughout the Capitol; and

2 WHEREAS, Most importantly, upholding the true representation
3 of a library, the Senate Library is open for tours and research
4 to all General Assembly members, staff and constituents; and

5 WHEREAS, During "National Library Week," everyone is
6 encouraged to visit their local library and raise awareness of
7 the value and impact the library has had on them; therefore be
8 it

9 RESOLVED, That the Senate recognize the week of April 23
10 through 29, 2023, as "National Library Week" in Pennsylvania.