

THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF PENNSYLVANIA

# HOUSE RESOLUTION

No. 283 Session of  
2023

INTRODUCED BY GREEN, D. WILLIAMS, PARKER, N. NELSON, McNEILL,  
BELLMON, MADDEN, VITALI, HOHENSTEIN, PIELLI, VENKAT, PROBST,  
CERRATO, HILL-EVANS, GIRAL, BOROWSKI, MAYES, KHAN, HANBIDGE,  
POWELL, SCHLOSSBERG AND TAKAC, DECEMBER 11, 2023

REFERRED TO COMMITTEE ON STATE GOVERNMENT, DECEMBER 11, 2023

## A RESOLUTION

1 Honoring the life and legacy of Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr., and  
2 recognizing January 15, 2024, as "Martin Luther King, Jr.,  
3 Day" and as a day of service in Pennsylvania.

4 WHEREAS, Martin Luther King, Jr., was born on January 15,  
5 1929, in Atlanta, Georgia, to Reverend Michael King, Sr., and  
6 Alberta King (née Williams), the second of three children; and

7 WHEREAS, Ever since he was a child, Dr. King, born Michael  
8 King, Jr., witnessed racial segregation, commonplace at the  
9 time, and took a stand against racial injustices done to  
10 himself; and

11 WHEREAS, Dr. King followed in his father's and grandfather's  
12 footsteps by becoming a Baptist minister after graduation from  
13 Morehouse College in 1948 and Crozer Theological Seminary in  
14 1951; and

15 WHEREAS, Dr. King received his doctorate degree from Boston  
16 University in 1955; and

17 WHEREAS, As pastor, Dr. King was vocal in his disdain for

1 racial segregation and organized a citywide boycott of the  
2 segregated busing system in Montgomery, Alabama, which led to a  
3 United States Supreme Court decision forcing desegregation of  
4 the buses; and

5 WHEREAS, Dr. King championed the philosophy of nonviolent  
6 passive resistance, civil disobedience and freedom from  
7 oppression; and

8 WHEREAS, In 1960, Dr. King moved back to Atlanta to join his  
9 father as associate pastor of the Ebenezer Baptist Church and  
10 organized the Southern Christian Leadership Conference to fight  
11 segregation and discrimination throughout the South; and

12 WHEREAS, He led a massive voter registration drive in Selma,  
13 Alabama, resulting in the famous freedom march to Montgomery,  
14 the state capital; and

15 WHEREAS, The famous march on Washington, DC, in 1963  
16 culminated in a great rally at the Lincoln Memorial at which Dr.  
17 King gave his immortal "I Have a Dream" speech and the enactment  
18 of the Federal Civil Rights Act of 1964; and

19 WHEREAS, His determined leadership of the civil rights  
20 movement in the United States was formally recognized in 1964  
21 when he received the Nobel Peace Prize; and

22 WHEREAS, Dr. King was assassinated in 1968 while in Memphis,  
23 Tennessee; and

24 WHEREAS, The third Monday of January has been designated as a  
25 national holiday as well as a State holiday within the  
26 Commonwealth, providing all Americans an opportunity to reflect  
27 upon the profound impact of Dr. King's personal sacrifices and  
28 efforts to ensure freedom for all; therefore be it

29 RESOLVED, That the House of Representatives honor the life  
30 and legacy of Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr., and recognize January

1 15, 2024, as "Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr., Day" and as a day of  
2 service in Pennsylvania.