
THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF PENNSYLVANIA

SENATE BILL

No. 900 Session of
1989

INTRODUCED BY HESS (BY REQUEST), MAY 8, 1989

REFERRED TO STATE GOVERNMENT, MAY 8, 1989

AN ACT

1 Adopting the song "Pennsylvania State Song," lyrics and music by
2 Thomas L. Gibson, as the State song of the Commonwealth of
3 Pennsylvania.

4 The General Assembly of the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania
5 hereby enacts as follows:

6 Section 1. Official State song.

7 The song "Pennsylvania State Song," lyrics and music by
8 Thomas L. Gibson, is hereby adopted as the State song of
9 Pennsylvania and shall be the official song for all public
10 purposes. The lyrics of the song are as follows:

11 "Pennsylvania State Song"

12 Verse 1

13 Kind heaven had in store for me

14 The place where I should dwell,

15 Fair Pennsylvania was that choice,

16 The State I love so well.

17 I love thy hills and mountains high,

18 Thy valleys rich and wide;

1 May heav'n in love o'er thee preside,
2 Dear Pennsylvania.

3 Chorus

4 Thy hills are dear to me,
5 The mem'ry of thy sons,
6 May heav'n in love watch over thee,
7 Dear Pennsylvania.

8 Verse 2

9 Tho' other states may prove as true,
10 And other lands as fair;
11 Tho' fame of others may be sung,
12 Their glories borne in air,
13 Yet here is one which to may soul,
14 Is fairest of them all;
15 Of thee I sing, Oh, Keystone State,
16 My Pennsylvania.

17 Chorus

18 Thy hills are dear to me,
19 The mem'ry of thy sons,
20 May heav'n in love watch over thee,
21 Dear Pennsylvania.

22 Verse 3

23 A noble race in thee we find,
24 One tho't, one end in view:
25 To guard thy name, extend thy fame,
26 And build thee strong and true.
27 A fruitful soil is thy free gift,
28 Great wealth is in thy hills,
29 Who toils in thee is well repaid,
30 Fair Pennsylvania.

1 Chorus

2 Thy hills are dear to me,
3 The mem'ry of thy sons,
4 May heav'n in love watch over thee,
5 Dear Pennsylvania.

6 Verse 4

7 Brave were the deeds they first-born did
8 For thee, my native State;
9 At Brandywine and Valley Forge
10 Their sacrifice was great;
11 Upon the field of Gettysburg
12 Our fathers fought and fell;
13 Guard well thy heritage so dear,
14 Brave Pennsylvania.

15 Chorus

16 Thy hills are dear to me,
17 The mem'ry of thy sons,
18 May heav'n in love watch over thee,
19 Dear Pennsylvania.

20 Verse 5

21 In time of war thine arm was strong,
22 They sons were brave and true,
23 When peace returned within thy realms
24 Thy wealth and honors grew,
25 Shall not they noble heritage
26 Inspire to actions high?
27 'Tis easy such a land to love,
28 Oh, Pennsylvania.

29 Chorus

30 Thy hills are dear to me,

1 The mem'ry of thy sons,
2 May heav'n in love watch over thee,
3 Dear Pennsylvania.
4 Section 2. Effective date.
5 This act shall take effect in 60 days.