
THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF PENNSYLVANIA

HOUSE RESOLUTION

No. 288 Session of
2003

INTRODUCED BY HORSEY, DeWEESE, PERZEL, HERMAN, READSHAW, DIVEN,
ALLEN, BAKER, BASTIAN, BEBKO-JONES, BISHOP, BOYD, CAPPELLI,
COHEN, CORRIGAN, COY, CREIGHTON, CRUZ, D. EVANS, J. EVANS,
FABRIZIO, FRANKEL, GEIST, GERGELY, GINGRICH, GOODMAN,
GRUCELA, HARHAI, HERSHEY, JAMES, JOSEPHS, KELLER, KENNEY,
KIRKLAND, LAUGHLIN, LEDERER, LESCOVITZ, LEWIS, MAHER,
MANDERINO, McGEEHAN, MELIO, MYERS, O'BRIEN, OLIVER, PAYNE,
PISTELLA, REICHLEY, RIEGER, ROBERTS, ROEBUCK, ROSS, RUBLEY,
SAINATO, SHANER, B. SMITH, SOLOBAY, STAIRS, STETLER,
T. STEVENSON, SURRA, J. TAYLOR, THOMAS, TIGUE, WALKO,
WASHINGTON, WATERS, WATSON, WHEATLEY, WILLIAMS, WOJNAROSKI,
YOUNGBLOOD, MCGILL, WANSACZ, BUNT, DALLY, GABIG, FORCIER AND
HESS, MAY 13, 2003

INTRODUCED AS NONCONTROVERSIAL RESOLUTION UNDER RULE 35,
MAY 13, 2003

A RESOLUTION

1 Designating May 21, 2003, as "Outstanding Contributions to
2 Pennsylvania Athletics Day" in Pennsylvania.

3 WHEREAS, Coach Joe Paterno became an assistant football coach
4 at The Pennsylvania State University under Head Coach Rip Engle
5 in 1950; and

6 WHEREAS, In 1966, 16 years after he planned to go to law
7 school, Joe Paterno was named the 14th head coach for football
8 at Penn State; and

9 WHEREAS, Penn State under Coach Joe Paterno has compiled five
10 unbeaten, untied seasons for two national championships; and

11 WHEREAS, Coach Joe Paterno, or Joe Pa as he is affectionately
12 called, has been an assistant coach or head coach at Penn State

1 for 51 years; and

2 WHEREAS, Coach Joe Paterno and his wife Sue Paterno have
3 donated \$4 million to The Pennsylvania State University through
4 the Paterno Libraries Endowment and for other purposes; and

5 WHEREAS, Coach Joe Paterno has earned recognition for winning
6 324 major college football games and for his selflessness and
7 generosity to The Pennsylvania State University community; and

8 WHEREAS, Julius Erving was one of the most exciting and
9 talented players in the history of professional basketball; and

10 WHEREAS, After high school, Julius Erving entered the
11 University of Massachusetts where he broke freshman records for
12 scoring and rebounding, leading his team through an undefeated
13 season; and

14 WHEREAS, In the 1970s, Julius Erving did more than anyone to
15 build the fledgling American Basketball Association (ABA) into a
16 worthy rival of the National Basketball Association (NBA); and

17 WHEREAS, Julius Erving was voted most valuable player in the
18 ABA for three consecutive seasons, and his unique and
19 imaginative style of play has forever changed our notions of
20 what is possible on a basketball court; and

21 WHEREAS, In 1976 Julius Erving moved to the Philadelphia
22 76ers of the NBA, where he remained for the last 11 years of his
23 professional basketball career, leading the 76ers to an NBA
24 championship in 1983; and

25 WHEREAS, At the time Julius Erving retired in 1987, he had
26 scored more than 30,000 points in his professional career; and

27 WHEREAS, Julius Erving is one of only three players in the
28 history of the game to achieve this feat; and

29 WHEREAS, Julius Erving became a commentator for NBC and
30 appeared in the feature film "The Fish That Saved Pittsburgh";

1 and

2 WHEREAS, Julius Erving currently serves on the board of
3 directors of Meridian Bancorp and the Philadelphia Coca-Cola
4 Bottling Company, and he was inducted into the Basketball Hall
5 of Fame; and

6 WHEREAS, One of the greatest running backs of all time,
7 Franco Harris is a Pittsburgh Steelers legend who exemplified
8 success on and off the field; and

9 WHEREAS, Franco Harris set or tied more than two dozen NFL
10 records, made nine Pro Bowl appearances and was named Super Bowl
11 MVP; and

12 WHEREAS, Franco Harris gained national attention in 1972 by
13 making the famous "Immaculate Reception" on a deflected pass
14 from Terry Bradshaw that gave the Steelers their first playoff
15 victory, 13-7 over the Oakland Raiders; and

16 WHEREAS, Franco Harris is the owner of Super Bakery, Inc.,
17 and he recently saved a piece of history when he purchased the
18 failing Parks Sausage Company, the first publicly held black-
19 owned business in the United States; and

20 WHEREAS, Franco Harris is the recipient of nearly a dozen
21 awards for volunteer work; and

22 WHEREAS, Franco Harris was inducted into the Pro Football
23 Hall of Fame in his first year of eligibility; therefore be it

24 RESOLVED, That the House of Representatives designate May 21,
25 2003, as "Outstanding Contributions to Pennsylvania Athletics
26 Day" in Pennsylvania.