
THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF PENNSYLVANIA

HOUSE RESOLUTION

No. 70 Session of
2017

INTRODUCED BY ROZZI, MURT, MILLARD, KINSEY, DIGIROLAMO,
SCHWEYER, CALTAGIRONE, V. BROWN, SCHLOSSBERG, J. HARRIS,
READSHAW, D. COSTA, KORTZ, KAUFFMAN, HENNESSEY, NEILSON AND
HILL-EVANS, FEBRUARY 6, 2017

INTRODUCED AS NONCONTROVERSIAL RESOLUTION UNDER RULE 35,
FEBRUARY 6, 2017

A RESOLUTION

1 Recognizing February 27, 2017, as "Dominican Republic
2 Independence Day" in Pennsylvania.

3 WHEREAS, On February 27, 2017, the Dominican Republic
4 celebrates the anniversary of its independence from Haiti; and

5 WHEREAS, Previously, their shared island of Hispaniola had
6 been under Haitian rule for a little more than a couple of
7 decades, after centuries of colonialism, first by the Spanish
8 and then by the French; and

9 WHEREAS, Nationalist Juan Pablo Duarte helped organize the
10 war against the Haitian regime and is considered one of the
11 founding fathers; and

12 WHEREAS, "Dominican Republic Independence Day" coincides with
13 Carnival, which is celebrated the entire month of February with
14 parades, competitions and spirited events; and

15 WHEREAS, The country is an important partner in hemispheric
16 affairs due to its standing in the Caribbean as the largest

1 economy and second-largest country in terms of population and
2 land mass, its large bilateral trade with the United States and
3 its proximity to the United States and other smaller Caribbean
4 nations; and

5 WHEREAS, The family unit within Dominican society is
6 considered incredibly important and has formed the basis of
7 stability throughout all of the Dominican Republic's political
8 and economic upheaval; and

9 WHEREAS, Whenever possible the extended family, which usually
10 encompasses three generations, often lives within the same
11 vicinity; and

12 WHEREAS, Family loyalty is a deeply ingrained characteristic
13 of the Dominican people; and

14 WHEREAS, It is well known that the Dominican Republic is the
15 homeland of much of Major League Baseball, yet it is also known
16 for the likes of fashion designer Oscar de la Renta, actress Zoe
17 Saldana, Pulitzer prize-winning novelist Junot Diaz and
18 countless other accomplished individuals; and

19 WHEREAS, Dominicans are the fifth-largest population of
20 Hispanic origin living in the United States, accounting for 3.3%
21 of the United States Hispanic population, and Reading is host to
22 the 10th largest community of Dominicans in the United States;
23 and

24 WHEREAS, The Dominican-American community contributes to our
25 nation's economic vitality and culture, while maintaining deep
26 connection with their Dominican roots; therefore be it

27 RESOLVED, That the House of Representatives recognize
28 February 27, 2017, as "Dominican Republic Independence Day" in
29 Pennsylvania.