
THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF PENNSYLVANIA

SENATE RESOLUTION

No. 26 Session of
2017

INTRODUCED BY STREET, DINNIMAN, SCHWANK, LEACH, SABATINA,
RESCHENTHALER, SCAVELLO, FONTANA, BROWNE, GREENLEAF AND
RAFFERTY, FEBRUARY 8, 2017

INTRODUCED AND ADOPTED, FEBRUARY 8, 2017

A RESOLUTION

1 Designating the month of February 2017 as "Black History Month"
2 in Pennsylvania.

3 WHEREAS, It is the duty of society to recognize those
4 individuals within its borders who have contributed greatly to
5 the quality of life therein; and

6 WHEREAS, The contributions of African-American residents as
7 scientists, inventors, farmers, educators, homemakers, explorers
8 and countless other professions have greatly benefited this
9 Commonwealth and our nation; and

10 WHEREAS, Multiethnicity and multiculturalism is encouraged
11 with an increased awareness of the important role that African
12 Americans have played throughout the history of this
13 Commonwealth and our nation; and

14 WHEREAS, Carter Godwin Woodson, an African-American
15 historian, recognized these contributions and accomplishments
16 and on February 7, 1926, created a cultural landmark known as
17 "Negro History Week"; and

1 WHEREAS, "Negro History Week" was changed to "Black History
2 Week" during the Civil Rights Movement in the 1960s and was
3 subsequently expanded to "Black History Month"; and

4 WHEREAS, "Black History Month" was officially recognized in
5 the United States as part of the bicentennial celebration and
6 has continued to be a monthlong celebration each year since
7 1976; and

8 WHEREAS, Regarding "Black History Month," President Gerald
9 Ford urged Americans to "seize the opportunity to honor the too-
10 often neglected accomplishments of black Americans in every area
11 of endeavor throughout our history"; and

12 WHEREAS, "Black History Month" is an opportunity for all
13 Americans to commemorate the struggles and victories of African
14 Americans in our history and their invaluable contributions to
15 society and to the defense of our nation in war and peace;
16 therefore be it

17 RESOLVED, That the Senate designate the month of February
18 2017 as "Black History Month" in Pennsylvania in recognition of
19 the contributions of the African-American community to this
20 Commonwealth and our nation and encourage all residents of this
21 Commonwealth to seek increased awareness and understanding of
22 these contributions through historical study.