
THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF PENNSYLVANIA

SENATE RESOLUTION

No. 131 Session of
2017

INTRODUCED BY ALLOWAY, MAY 24, 2017

INTRODUCED AND ADOPTED, MAY 24, 2017

A RESOLUTION

1 Designating the week of June 4 through 10, 2017, as "Chesapeake
2 Bay Awareness Week" in Pennsylvania.

3 WHEREAS, The Chesapeake Bay is the largest and most
4 productive estuary in the United States, its watershed spanning
5 six states and the District of Columbia; and

6 WHEREAS, The Chesapeake Bay is fed by 50 major tributaries,
7 the largest being the Susquehanna River, which provides 50% of
8 the freshwater to the Bay; and

9 WHEREAS, Stretching 200 miles from Havre de Grace, Maryland,
10 to Norfolk, Virginia, the Chesapeake Bay has an average depth of
11 21 feet and ranges from 3.4 to 35 miles wide; and

12 WHEREAS, The Chesapeake Bay supports 348 species of finfish,
13 173 species of shellfish and more than 3,600 species of plant
14 and animal life, including 2,700 types of plants and more than
15 16 species of underwater grasses; and

16 WHEREAS, The Chesapeake Bay produces more than 500 million
17 pounds of seafood harvest each year; and

18 WHEREAS, The Chesapeake Bay's tributaries in this

Commonwealth are an important source of drinking water and recreational fishing and boating for this Commonwealth; and

WHEREAS, The Chesapeake Bay watershed covers 64,000 square miles, including half of this Commonwealth; and

WHEREAS, The Chesapeake Bay watershed is an extraordinary and vital natural resource, with some of the nation's most productive farm and forest lands in this Commonwealth's portion of the watershed; and

WHEREAS, This productivity supported the settlement and growth of our nation and is a vital resource for future generations; and

WHEREAS, The Chesapeake Bay area is home to more than 17 million people, many of whom rely upon the bay for their livelihood and recreational activities; and

WHEREAS, The rich history, pivotal economic importance and astounding beauty of the Chesapeake Bay watershed never cease to amaze residents and visitors alike; and

WHEREAS, All residents of this Commonwealth are encouraged to commemorate "Chesapeake Bay Awareness Week" with events and educational programs designed to increase awareness of the importance of the Chesapeake Bay to this Commonwealth, the region and the United States; therefore be it

RESOLVED, That the Senate designate the week of June 4 through 10, 2017, as "Chesapeake Bay Awareness Week" in Pennsylvania.