

THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF PENNSYLVANIA

SENATE RESOLUTION

No. 313 Session of
2018

INTRODUCED BY HUGHES, BREWSTER, FONTANA, EICHELBERGER, SABATINA,
DINNIMAN, BROWNE, COSTA, FARNESE, SCHWANK, RAFFERTY,
HUTCHINSON, STREET, KILLION, MENSCH, VULAKOVICH AND AUMENT,
APRIL 16, 2018

INTRODUCED AND ADOPTED, APRIL 16, 2018

A RESOLUTION

1 Recognizing the month of April 2018 as "Jazz Appreciation Month"
2 in Pennsylvania.

3 WHEREAS, "Jazz Appreciation Month (JAM)," was created in 2001
4 at the Smithsonian Museum to celebrate the extraordinary
5 heritage and history of jazz music during the month of April;
6 and

7 WHEREAS, JAM is intended to stimulate and encourage
8 individuals of all ages to participate in the appreciation of
9 jazz music through study, concerts, recordings and books; and

10 WHEREAS, This year JAM is celebrating the music and
11 transformative role jazz music has in promoting social justice;
12 and

13 WHEREAS, This year JAM is commemorating jazz producer Norman
14 Granz, one of the most influential impresarios in the 20th
15 century jazz scene; and

16 WHEREAS, One of jazz's true giants, Norman Granz was born on
17 August 6, 1918, and died on November 22, 2001; and

1 WHEREAS, Norman Granz was the primary source for the
2 recording and dissemination of jazz from the 1940s to the 1980s;
3 and

4 WHEREAS, Norman Granz helped propel the career of many jazz
5 musicians, including Ella Fitzgerald; and

6 WHEREAS, Norman Granz's famous Jazz at the Philharmonic
7 concert series marked the shift of jazz performances from
8 nightclubs to concert halls and revolutionized the way audiences
9 listened to jazz music; and

10 WHEREAS, In 1956, Norman Granz founded Verve Records, which
11 captured some of the finest jazz performances ever recorded; and

12 WHEREAS, In addition to his contributions to jazz music,
13 Norman Granz devoted his life to fighting for civil rights and
14 equality; and

15 WHEREAS, During times of high racial tensions, Norman Granz
16 wrote nondiscrimination clauses into all of his musicians'
17 contracts and emphasized the need for musicians to perform at
18 integrated concerts; and

19 WHEREAS, Jazz music is part of the rich and diverse musical
20 history of this Commonwealth; therefore be it

21 RESOLVED, That the Senate recognize the month of April 2018
22 as "Jazz Appreciation Month" in Pennsylvania and the
23 contributions of Norman Granz who, in bringing jazz to audiences
24 around the world, defied racial and social prejudice.