

THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF PENNSYLVANIA

HOUSE RESOLUTION

No. 608 Session of
2017

INTRODUCED BY TOEPEL, HAHN, MAKO, BAKER, BIZZARRO, BOBACK,
BRADFORD, CHARLTON, CONKLIN, CORBIN, CORR, D. COSTA, SCHLEGEL
CULVER, DALEY, DIGIROLAMO, DUSH, EVERETT, GROVE, HEFFLEY,
HENNESSEY, PHILLIPS-HILL, JAMES, JOZWIAK, KINSEY, KORTZ,
LONGIETTI, MARSICO, MILLARD, B. MILLER, NEILSON, PASHINSKI,
PICKETT, PYLE, RADER, READSHAW, RYAN, SAYLOR, SCHLOSSBERG,
SONNEY, STEPHENS, TOOHIL, WARD AND MATZIE, NOVEMBER 17, 2017

INTRODUCED AS NONCONTROVERSIAL RESOLUTION UNDER RULE 35,
NOVEMBER 17, 2017

A RESOLUTION

1 Recognizing December 7, 2017, as "Great Law Day" in
2 Pennsylvania.

3 WHEREAS, William Penn prepared and supervised the creation of
4 a series of statutes for Pennsylvania which became known as the
5 "Great Law"; and

6 WHEREAS, Soon after his arrival in Pennsylvania in October
7 1682, William Penn called for a legislature to meet; and

8 WHEREAS, Pennsylvania's first legislature met in what is now
9 Chester from December 4 through 7, 1682; and

10 WHEREAS, The legislature concluded reviewing and passing the
11 series of statutes which became known as the "Great Law" on
12 December 7, 1682; and

13 WHEREAS, This action effectively set in motion the enduring
14 principle of representative government for the residents of
15 Pennsylvania, which has flourished under Pennsylvania's

1 subsequent frames, charters and constitutions; and

2 WHEREAS, The "Great Law" enshrined many vital freedoms for
3 Pennsylvanians, particularly religious liberty and freedom of
4 worship; and

5 WHEREAS, These statutes also established the foundation of a
6 stable government in Pennsylvania by providing for the
7 maintenance of records, establishment of courts, conduct of
8 trials, prevention of election fraud and control of taxation;
9 therefore be it

10 RESOLVED, That the House of Representatives recognize
11 December 7, 2017, as "Great Law Day" in Pennsylvania in
12 commemoration of these historic actions of the first legislature
13 of Pennsylvania.