
THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF PENNSYLVANIA

HOUSE RESOLUTION

No. 164 Session of
2019

INTRODUCED BY STURLA, KINSEY, MARKOSEK, RABB, ROEBUCK, HILL-
EVANS, TOEPEL, BIZZARRO, RYAN, CALTAGIRONE, ROTHMAN, FREEMAN,
READSHAW, FEE, HICKERNELL, KORTZ, MURT, DIGIROLAMO, MILLARD,
DAVIDSON, OBERLANDER, SAPPEY, SAYLOR, B. MILLER, NEILSON,
ZIMMERMAN, MENTZER AND WEBSTER, MARCH 20, 2019

INTRODUCED AS NONCONTROVERSIAL RESOLUTION UNDER RULE 35,
MARCH 20, 2019

A RESOLUTION

1 Designating April 4, 2019, as "Thaddeus Stevens Day" in
2 Pennsylvania.

3 WHEREAS, Thaddeus Stevens, a prominent figure in the 19th
4 century history of Pennsylvania and the United States, was born
5 in Vermont on April 4, 1792; and

6 WHEREAS, Mr. Stevens lived most of his life in Pennsylvania,
7 teaching, practicing law and serving in the General Assembly
8 from 1833 to 1841 and representing Pennsylvanians in Congress
9 from 1849 to 1853 and again from 1859 until his death in 1868;

10 and

11 WHEREAS, Mr. Stevens notably fought for the preservation of
12 public education in this Commonwealth, for the emancipation of
13 slaves, for passage of the 14th Amendment to the Constitution of
14 the United States and for reconstruction of the South after the
15 Civil War; and

16 WHEREAS, Mr. Stevens directed that, upon his death, he be

1 buried in an integrated cemetery in the City of Lancaster with
2 this self-composed epitaph on his grave marker: ". . .I have
3 chosen this that I might illustrate in my death the principles
4 which I advocated through a long life. Equality of man before
5 his Creator"; and

6 WHEREAS, Mr. Stevens left a generous bequest upon his death
7 on August 11, 1868, to establish a school for the relief and
8 refuge of homeless, indigent orphans; and

9 WHEREAS, This bequest evolved to form the Thaddeus Stevens
10 College of Technology, founded to provide solid industrial
11 education to all residents of this Commonwealth regardless of
12 race or color, which is a living monument to the life of
13 Thaddeus Stevens; therefore be it

14 RESOLVED, That the House of Representatives designate April
15 4, 2019, as "Thaddeus Stevens Day" in Pennsylvania to
16 commemorate the 227th anniversary of the birth of this
17 remarkable man.