
THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF PENNSYLVANIA

HOUSE RESOLUTION

No. 241 Session of
2019

INTRODUCED BY WHEATLEY, HILL-EVANS, RYAN, HENNESSEY, FRANKEL,
STAATS, BIZZARRO, KORTZ, BURNS, CALTAGIRONE, NEILSON,
KIRKLAND, EVERETT, BROWN, MURT, SCHLEGEL CULVER, DIGIROLAMO,
SONNEY, READSHAW, PASHINSKI, FREEMAN, LONGIETTI, MILLARD,
YOUNGBLOOD, SCHWEYER, WILLIAMS AND McCLINTON, APRIL 25, 2019

INTRODUCED AS NONCONTROVERSIAL RESOLUTION UNDER RULE 35,
APRIL 25, 2019

A RESOLUTION

1 Recognizing the month of April 2019 as "National Jazz
2 Appreciation Month" in Pennsylvania.

3 WHEREAS, New Orleans is the birthplace of jazz music; and

4 WHEREAS, The history of jazz music is inextricably linked
5 with the history of African-American culture in the United
6 States; and

7 WHEREAS, Jazz has been called America's only true indigenous
8 art form; and

9 WHEREAS, Many musicians traveled north from New Orleans
10 during World War I and brought the distinctive style of jazz to
11 Chicago, Washington, New York, Pittsburgh and Philadelphia; and

12 WHEREAS, Langston Hughes, alumnus of Lincoln University,
13 extolled the virtues of jazz music in his famous poem, "Trumpet
14 Player: 52nd Street"; and

15 WHEREAS, Philadelphia and Pittsburgh made significant
16 contributions to jazz music in the early 20th century; and

1 WHEREAS, Philadelphia's South Street was home to the African-
2 American-owned Standard Theatre and Dunbar Theatre, both of
3 which hosted incredible performances by famous jazz artists
4 Bessie Smith, Duke Ellington and Louis Armstrong; and

5 WHEREAS, Both Kenny Clarke of Pittsburgh and John Coltrane of
6 Philadelphia helped shape the evolution of jazz music in America
7 and made significant contributions to the Bebop revolution; and

8 WHEREAS, Jazz music is uniquely American and represents one
9 of our nation's proudest cultural contributions to the world;
10 therefore be it

11 RESOLVED, That the House of Representatives recognize the
12 month of April 2019 as "National Jazz Appreciation Month" in
13 Pennsylvania.