
THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF PENNSYLVANIA

HOUSE RESOLUTION

No. 385 Session of
2024

INTRODUCED BY MERSKI, BIZZARRO, HARKINS, KINSEY, KHAN, HILL-
EVANS, GIRAL, CONKLIN AND D. WILLIAMS, APRIL 10, 2024

REFERRED TO COMMITTEE ON STATE GOVERNMENT, APRIL 10, 2024

A RESOLUTION

1 Designating April 18, 2024, as "Erie Day" in Pennsylvania.

2 WHEREAS, On April 18, 1795, an act passed by the General
3 Assembly authorized the surveying of land near Presque Isle on
4 the southeastern shore of Lake Erie to plan what would later
5 become the City of Erie and resolve the boundary between
6 Pennsylvania and New York; and

7 WHEREAS, William Irvine and Andrew Ellicott, the State
8 Commissioners appointed to lay out Erie, arrived in June 1795,
9 accompanied by a corps of surveyors and escorted by a company of
10 State troops; and

11 WHEREAS, Erie was laid out in three sections, each about one
12 square mile, and extending from the bay south to 12th Street;
13 and

14 WHEREAS, The first section ran from Parade Street to Chestnut
15 Street, the second section from Chestnut Street to Cranberry
16 Street and the third section from Cranberry Street to West
17 Street; and

1 WHEREAS, The outlots extended south to 26th Street, east to
2 East Avenue, west to the western boundary of the almshouse farm,
3 and north to the bay of Presque Isle; and

4 WHEREAS, On March 29, 1805, Erie was first established as a
5 borough by act of the General Assembly which created a borough
6 and town council headed by a burgess; and

7 WHEREAS, The burgess form of government remained until April
8 14, 1851, when the City of Erie was incorporated, establishing
9 the office of mayor and select council; and

10 WHEREAS, The City of Erie was named for the Native American
11 Erie people who lived in the area until the mid-17th century;
12 and

13 WHEREAS, The 2020 census shows Erie as the fifth most
14 populous city in Pennsylvania and the most populous in
15 northwestern Pennsylvania with a population of 94,831; therefore
16 be it

17 RESOLVED, That the House of Representatives designate April
18 18, 2024, as "Erie Day" in Pennsylvania.