

---

THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF PENNSYLVANIA

---

HOUSE RESOLUTION

No. 967 Session of  
2020

---

INTRODUCED BY MIHALEK, KAIL, O'NEAL, STRUZZI, BURNS, RYAN,  
DONATUCCI, BOBACK, JAMES, PICKETT, OWLETT, STAATS, DAVANZO,  
SCHMITT, MILLARD, ROWE, MERSKI, COX, MALAGARI, SCHLOSSBERG,  
READSHAW, LONGIETTI, MACKENZIE, BERNSTINE, SCHLEGEL CULVER,  
MOUL, MURT, B. MILLER, BROWN, NEILSON, ECKER, ROZZI, SONNEY,  
HILL-EVANS, KULIK, HEFFLEY, MENTZER AND CIRESI,  
AUGUST 7, 2020

---

REFERRED TO COMMITTEE ON COMMERCE, AUGUST 7, 2020

---

A RESOLUTION

1 Designating the month of September 2020 as "Business Month" in  
2 Pennsylvania to celebrate the history of this Commonwealth's  
3 businesses and industries and acknowledge the need to adapt  
4 to the ever-changing needs of our business community.

5 WHEREAS, This Commonwealth, from its very inception, was a  
6 leader in business and home to some of the nation's earliest  
7 industrialists; and

8 WHEREAS, With a world class workforce and a proud legacy in  
9 industry and manufacturing, this Commonwealth is the birthplace  
10 of the country's industrial revolution, putting the pieces  
11 together that helped to build America and led to establishing  
12 the United States as the world's leading economic power; and

13 WHEREAS, This Commonwealth was its own economic giant driven  
14 by the expansion of industries such as rail, mining, petroleum  
15 and manufacturing, as well as iron and steel production; and

16 WHEREAS, Behind the expansion of industries in this

1 Commonwealth and the major economic growth opportunity for our  
2 region were home grown Pennsylvania entrepreneurs; and

3 WHEREAS, Over the years as markets fluctuated, regulatory  
4 environments changed and production moved overseas but the one  
5 thing that remained constant was American ingenuity; and

6 WHEREAS, The World Health Organization declared COVID-19 a  
7 pandemic on March 11, 2020, and subsequently Pennsylvania's  
8 nonlife-sustaining businesses were shut down on March 19, 2020;  
9 and

10 WHEREAS, As a result of the business shutdown, unemployment  
11 compensation claims totaled 2,177,480 as of June 2020 and  
12 continue to increase, while Pandemic Unemployment Assistance  
13 claims exceed 773,206; and

14 WHEREAS, The COVID-19 pandemic revealed the weakness in our  
15 supply chains and the consequences of relying too heavily on a  
16 global economy to supply us with critical goods, including  
17 respirators and medical equipment, ingredients for making  
18 critical drugs and even components for military equipment; and

19 WHEREAS, At this critical juncture, this Commonwealth is  
20 poised to lead the recovery effort out of the economic crisis  
21 created by the COVID-19 pandemic by supporting rapid job  
22 creation within industry and manufacturing; and

23 WHEREAS, Quick and decisive action in removing barriers to  
24 job creation will create a pathway for this Commonwealth to be  
25 on the forefront of our economic recovery in the short term and  
26 enable this Commonwealth to continue to grow in the long term;  
27 and

28 WHEREAS, Pennsylvania's surest path to sustainable prosperity  
29 is to embrace the concept of a diverse economy that includes  
30 traditional industry alongside our emerging technology, a

1 partnership to rally around for the common cause of recovery and  
2 revitalization and to aggressively unlock virtually unlimited  
3 growth potential across this Commonwealth; and

4 WHEREAS, By looking to its past, this Commonwealth can see  
5 its future and that it is uniquely positioned to lead the new  
6 American Renaissance; and

7 WHEREAS, This Commonwealth, the original leader of business  
8 and industry, can rely on its unique advantages of a highly  
9 skilled labor force, abundant and inexpensive energy, a storied  
10 history of manufacturing expertise and cutting-edge technology  
11 and innovation to become the epicenter of the new American  
12 Renaissance as a matter of national security, economic vibrancy,  
13 sustainable employment and environmental stewardship; therefore  
14 be it

15 RESOLVED, That the House of Representatives designate the  
16 month of September 2020 as "Business Month" in Pennsylvania to  
17 celebrate the history of this Commonwealth's businesses and  
18 industries and acknowledge the need to adapt to the ever-  
19 changing needs of our business community; and be it further

20 RESOLVED, That the House of Representatives declare that  
21 Pennsylvania is open for business.