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THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF PENNSYLVANIA

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# SENATE RESOLUTION

No. 69 Session of  
2019

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INTRODUCED BY FONTANA, DINNIMAN, FARNESE, COLLETT, BARTOLOTTA,  
BROWNE, BREWSTER, K. WARD, BAKER, KILLION, MARTIN, SABATINA,  
BLAKE, TARTAGLIONE, HUGHES, FOLMER, J. WARD, YAW, SCHWANK,  
STREET, COSTA AND MUTH, APRIL 8, 2019

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INTRODUCED AND ADOPTED, APRIL 8, 2019

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A RESOLUTION

1 Recognizing the week of April 7 through 13, 2019, as "National  
2 Library Week" in Pennsylvania.

3 WHEREAS, "National Library Week" is an annual celebration  
4 highlighting the valuable roles libraries, librarians and  
5 library workers play in transforming lives and strengthening our  
6 communities; and

7 WHEREAS, When libraries were started nearly 300 years ago,  
8 books were the focus because bound publications were expensive,  
9 rare and difficult to get; and

10 WHEREAS, By the 1900s, steel magnate and philanthropist  
11 Andrew Carnegie believed that books could give ordinary people  
12 the knowledge they needed to work, so he used his money to build  
13 more than 2,500 libraries; and

14 WHEREAS, In the mid-1950s, research showed that Americans  
15 were spending less on books and more on radios, televisions and  
16 musical instruments; and

17 WHEREAS, For this reason, the American Library Association

1 and the American Book Publishers formed a nonprofit citizens  
2 organization with the goal of encouraging people to read in  
3 their increasing leisure time to improve income and develop a  
4 strong and healthy family life; and

5 WHEREAS, For over 60 years, the United States has celebrated  
6 "National Library Week" and the valuable contributions of the  
7 various libraries, librarians and staff and the services and  
8 resources they provide to people of all ages; and

9 WHEREAS, The 2019 theme of "National Library Week" is  
10 "Libraries = Strong Communities," which illustrates how  
11 libraries are at the heart of our cities, towns, schools and  
12 campuses, providing critical resources, programs and expertise;  
13 and

14 WHEREAS, Libraries have transformed from their primary  
15 purpose of being a repository of knowledge through lending  
16 books; and

17 WHEREAS, Today, libraries are a place people go to find  
18 housing, jobs, homework help, computer assistance and nutrition  
19 and health activities, to register for health care, to check out  
20 CDs and DVDs or even to learn a new hobby; and

21 WHEREAS, A public space where all community members,  
22 regardless of age, gender identity, ethnicity or income level,  
23 can come together to connect and learn also exists at libraries;  
24 and

25 WHEREAS, Currently, there are nearly 119,500 libraries,  
26 including public, academic, school and government, in the United  
27 States; and

28 WHEREAS, For over 200 years, the Pennsylvania Senate Library  
29 has served as the major source of information on Pennsylvania  
30 government with its collection of legislative documents,

1 journals and law books; and

2 WHEREAS, Beyond its role as a place to research, the Senate  
3 Library also serves as a resource for the numerous collections,  
4 displays and exhibits throughout the Capitol; and

5 WHEREAS, Most importantly, upholding the true representation  
6 of a library, the Senate Library is open for tours and research  
7 to all General Assembly members, staff and constituents; and

8 WHEREAS, During "National Library Week," everyone is  
9 encouraged to visit their local library and raise awareness of  
10 the value and impact the library has had on them; therefore be  
11 it

12 RESOLVED, That the Senate recognize the week of April 7  
13 through 13, 2019, as "National Library Week" in Pennsylvania.