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THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF PENNSYLVANIA

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SENATE RESOLUTION

No. 146 Session of  
2019

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INTRODUCED BY STREET, COLLETT, FONTANA, LEACH, SANTARSIERO,  
KEARNEY, FARNESE, HUGHES, MUTH AND TARTAGLIONE, JUNE 4, 2019

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INTRODUCED AND ADOPTED, JUNE 4, 2019

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A RESOLUTION

1 Observing June 4, 2019, as "Eid al-Fitr Day" in Pennsylvania.

2 WHEREAS, This Commonwealth, specifically Philadelphia, is  
3 lauded as the birthplace of the nation; and

4 WHEREAS, Founded by William Penn as an example of religious  
5 tolerance and exemplified by language in the 1701 Charter of  
6 Privileges which guaranteed religious freedom to all,  
7 Philadelphia continues to be a pillar of religious acceptance;  
8 and

9 WHEREAS, This Commonwealth is estimated to be home to more  
10 than 300,000 Muslims; and

11 WHEREAS, Muslims recognize two major religious observances  
12 each year, Ramadan and Hajj, each corresponding to the  
13 respective holiday of Eid al-Fitr and Eid al-Adha; and

14 WHEREAS, The Eid al-Fitr and Eid al-Adha are observed  
15 according to the lunar-based Islamic calendar; and

16 WHEREAS, The month of Ramadan is comprised of good deeds,  
17 donation and sacrifice, in an attempt to receive thawab, which

1 is spiritual merit rewarded by Allah for good deeds; and

2 WHEREAS, Eid al-Fitr is celebrated as a rejuvenation of the  
3 religion on the first day of Shawwal and marks the end of  
4 Ramadan, which is a month dedicated to fasting and prayer; and

5 WHEREAS, In addition to celebrating the end of fasting with  
6 great feasts, many Muslims pay Zakat al-Fitr, which is an act of  
7 obligatory charity; attend congregational prayers; and listen to  
8 a communal sermon known as khutbah to ask for Allah's  
9 forgiveness and continual blessings; and

10 WHEREAS, Eid al-Fitr is also typically celebrated by wearing  
11 new, fine clothing, visiting familial relatives, and gifting  
12 food or its monetary value to those who are less fortunate,  
13 thereby engaging in thankful revelation in the good fortune that  
14 has been bestowed upon you by Allah; and

15 WHEREAS, Islam in the United States is a moral and religious  
16 system that encourages self-determination, self-development,  
17 moral discipline and community empowerment based on the virtues  
18 of freedom, justice and equality, which are in many ways similar  
19 to the ideology of William Penn; therefore be it

20 RESOLVED, That the Senate observe June 4, 2019, as "Eid al-  
21 Fitr Day" in Pennsylvania.