

MEMORANDUM

To: All Members of the House of Representatives

From: Representative Maria Donatucci

Date: January 3, 2019

RE: **Designating January 25, 2020, as “Chinese New Year in Pennsylvania”**

The diverse citizens of Pennsylvania produce a wonderful array of faiths, beliefs, and traditions. With such a vastly unique community, we should always do our best to be cognizant of and recognize momentous occasions. One such group and one such occasion is the rapidly growing Asian-American community and the Chinese New Year.

The Chinese New Year is among the most important Chinese holidays. Also known as Lunar New Year or Spring Festival, this celebration begins on the first day of the first month in the traditional Chinese calendar and lasts for around fifteen days. This holiday is a time for family reunion, which features customs like staying up late throughout the night (Shou Sui), fireworks, reunion dinners, red packets (Hóngbāo), and lots of extravagant decorations. With such shared values, including family and community, this tradition should be recognized and celebrated throughout the Commonwealth.

Therefore, in an effort to honor our Asian-American community, please consider co-sponsoring this legislation with me and recognize January 25, 2020, as Chinese New Year in Pennsylvania.