
THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF PENNSYLVANIA

HOUSE RESOLUTION

No. 71

Session of
1997

INTRODUCED BY LLOYD, BELARDI, JAROLIN, BAKER, GORDNER, OLASZ,
LEH, SAYLOR, ITKIN, GODSHALL, CLARK, COY, MAITLAND, FEESE,
PISTELLA, SHANER, FARGO, E. Z. TAYLOR, B. SMITH, STABACK,
SCHULER, JAMES, ROHRER, BOSCOLA, BATTISTO, HERSHEY, SANTONI,
RAMOS, MIHALICH, JOSEPHS, TANGRETTI, MILLER, CAPPABIANCA,
HARHART, FAIRCHILD, McCALL, BROWN, WAUGH, HERMAN AND STERN,
MARCH 10, 1997

INTRODUCED AS NONCONTROVERSIAL RESOLUTION UNDER RULE 35,
MARCH 10, 1997

A RESOLUTION

1 Recognizing the week of March 17 through 23, 1997, as
2 "Agriculture Week" and March 20, 1997, as "Agriculture Day"
3 in Pennsylvania.

4 WHEREAS, Agriculture has been an integral part of this
5 Commonwealth's social and economic culture since colonial days;
6 and

7 WHEREAS, The hard work and dedication of this Commonwealth's
8 farm families and farm laborers over the generations have made
9 agriculture the number one industry in this Commonwealth; and

10 WHEREAS, Although total farm acreage has declined over the
11 years, this trend has been outweighed by improved farming
12 methods, including the use of computer technology and
13 biotechnology; and

14 WHEREAS, Commercial agricultural production and related
15 agribusinesses in this Commonwealth have solidified the position

1 of Pennsylvania agriculture in the national economy and made it
2 a growing segment of the global economy; and

3 WHEREAS, Pennsylvania agricultural exports were valued at
4 \$513 million in 1995, a 13% increase over the value of
5 agricultural exports during the previous fiscal year; and

6 WHEREAS, In 1995, Pennsylvania agricultural exports ranked
7 fourth in dairy products, eighth in hides and skins, ninth in
8 animal fats and tenth in prepared fruits, live animals and meat;
9 and

10 WHEREAS, In 1995, preliminary cash receipts from marketing
11 were \$3.74 billion, cash incomes from crops were estimated at
12 \$1.8 billion, and incomes from livestock and livestock products
13 totaled \$2.61 billion; and

14 WHEREAS, In 1995, Pennsylvania agriculture ranked first in
15 the nation in mushroom production, second in ice cream
16 production, third in egg production, fourth in milk production,
17 seventh in wholesale sales of floriculture crops and tenth in
18 commercial red meat production; and

19 WHEREAS, Despite uncooperative weather patterns and other
20 problems unique to farming, Pennsylvania farmers continue to
21 produce a variety of quality products for the nutritional
22 enjoyment of the people of this Commonwealth and the nation; and

23 WHEREAS, Agriculture is a source of pride for the citizens of
24 this Commonwealth and the nation who have had the opportunity to
25 view the picturesque farms, savor the food products and attend
26 the annual Farm Show; and

27 WHEREAS, The beginning of spring, when farmers are tilling
28 their fields in anticipation of a new planting season, is the
29 most appropriate time for all Pennsylvanians to celebrate the
30 accomplishments of the agriculture industry in general and this

1 Commonwealth's farm families in particular; therefore be it
2 RESOLVED, That the House of Representatives recognize the
3 week of March 17 through 23, 1997, as "Agriculture Week" and
4 March 20, 1997, as "Agriculture Day" in Pennsylvania and call
5 upon the people of this Commonwealth to salute farm families,
6 farm laborers and persons involved in agribusinesses for their
7 hard work and dedication to Pennsylvania agriculture by
8 observing "Agriculture Day" and "Agriculture Week" with
9 appropriate programs, ceremonies and activities.