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THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF PENNSYLVANIA

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SENATE RESOLUTION

No. 141 Session of  
2009

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INTRODUCED BY GREENLEAF, ARGALL, STACK, KASUNIC, WASHINGTON,  
ERICKSON, FONTANA, O'PAKE, RAFFERTY, MUSTO, ORIE, KITCHEN,  
BAKER, M. WHITE, TARTAGLIONE, PILEGGI, BOSCOLA, DINNIMAN,  
COSTA AND ROBBINS, JUNE 24, 2009

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INTRODUCED AND ADOPTED, JUNE 24, 2009

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A RESOLUTION

1 Recognizing June 28, 2009, as "German-American Day" in  
2 Pennsylvania.

3 WHEREAS, Thirteen families, invited by William Penn, settled  
4 in Germantown under the leadership of Francis Daniel Pastorius  
5 and helped to build a fledgling nation; and

6 WHEREAS, German Americans were staunch supporters of  
7 democracy and freedom of the press; and

8 WHEREAS, German Americans were instrumental in writing the  
9 Declaration of Independence, so much so that the original  
10 version was printed in the German language; and

11 WHEREAS, Not only did German Americans campaign for the  
12 abolition of slavery, but during the Civil War when the call was  
13 issued for volunteers, many German-born men quickly responded to  
14 save the Union, forming regiments, including Pennsylvania-German  
15 regiments; and

16 WHEREAS, Today, 50,764,352 Americans, more than any other  
17 ancestry, proudly claim German heritage; and

1       WHEREAS, Prominent Pennsylvanians of German heritage,  
2 including Milton J. Hershey, Henry Heinz and Grace Kelly, and  
3 less celebrated persons of German ancestry have contributed  
4 significantly to the social, economic and religious fabric of  
5 the United States; and

6       WHEREAS, All of the members of the Speaker Muhlenberg German-  
7 American Caucus, named for Pennsylvanian Frederick Muhlenberg,  
8 the first Speaker of the United States House of Representatives,  
9 call upon the people of this Commonwealth to commemorate the  
10 contributions of Pennsylvania Germans to the history and culture  
11 of Pennsylvania; and

12       WHEREAS, The act of June 29, 1976 (P.L.458, No.113), provides  
13 for the observance of June 28 of each year as "Pennsylvania  
14 German Day" and authorizes the Governor "to issue a proclamation  
15 each year calling upon the people of the Commonwealth to  
16 commemorate the contributions of the Pennsylvania German people  
17 to the history and culture of the Commonwealth, and to observe  
18 that day with appropriate honors and ceremonies"; therefore be  
19 it

20       RESOLVED, That the Senate recognize June 28, 2009, as  
21 "German-American Day" in Pennsylvania and call upon the citizens  
22 of this Commonwealth to observe the day with appropriate  
23 ceremonies and activities.