
THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF PENNSYLVANIA

HOUSE BILL

No. 541 Session of
2013

INTRODUCED BY KORTZ, EVANKOVICH, D. COSTA, RAPP, FABRIZIO,
BIZZARRO, HENNESSEY, BROWNLEE, MILLARD, HARKINS, MACKENZIE,
MOUL, CONKLIN, GROVE, HAHN, MULLERY, HESS, C. HARRIS, FLECK,
MURT, KINSEY, READSHAW, V. BROWN, GOODMAN, COHEN AND WATSON,
FEBRUARY 6, 2013

REFERRED TO COMMITTEE ON STATE GOVERNMENT, FEBRUARY 6, 2013

AN ACT

1 Designating the Harley-Davidson motorcycle as the official State
2 motorcycle of Pennsylvania.

3 The General Assembly finds and declares as follows:

4 WHEREAS, In 1903, the first production Harley-Davidson
5 motorcycle was made available to the public; and

6 WHEREAS, Founded by William S. Harley, Arthur Davidson,
7 Walter Davidson and William A. Davidson, the first Harley-
8 Davidson factory was erected in 1906 on Chestnut Street in
9 Milwaukee, Wisconsin, where it remains today as Harley-
10 Davidson's corporate headquarters; and

11 WHEREAS, The initial Harley-Davidson motorcycle was designed
12 for use in a regular pedal bicycle frame and, when first put to
13 use, was deemed incapable of conquering the modest hills of
14 Milwaukee; and

15 WHEREAS, The prototype became functional in 1904 and placed
16 fourth in competition in a motorcycle race held at the Milwaukee

1 State Fair Park; and

2 WHEREAS, The first issue of "*The Enthusiast*," a Harley-
3 Davidson publication, was first printed in 1916 and would go on
4 to become the longest continuously published motorcycle magazine
5 in the world; and

6 WHEREAS, In 1917, approximately one-third of all Harley-
7 Davidson motorcycles produced were sold to the United States
8 Armed Forces; and

9 WHEREAS, The Quartermasters School, a department of Harley-
10 Davidson devoted to training military mechanics on Harley-
11 Davidson motorcycles, opened for business in July 1917 and would
12 later become the Service School; and

13 WHEREAS, In 1918, nearly half of all Harley-Davidson
14 motorcycles produced were sold for use by the United States
15 military during World War I and were in high demand for combat
16 service in the war effort, and is estimated that the United
17 States Army utilized approximately 20,000 Harley-Davidson
18 motorcycles during World War I; and

19 WHEREAS, The Harley Owners Group (HOG) was founded in 1920 to
20 promote camaraderie and loyalty among Harley-Davidson
21 enthusiasts and, that same year, Harley-Davidson became the
22 largest motorcycle manufacturer in the world; and

23 WHEREAS, In 1921, the Harley-Davidson motorcycle was the
24 first motorcycle ever to win a race at an average speed of more
25 than 100 miles per hour; and

26 WHEREAS, The largest Harley-Davidson manufacturing facility,
27 which opened in 1973, is located in York in the Township of
28 Springettsbury and performs a myriad of manufacturing operations
29 from machining, polishing and chrome plating to forming, welding
30 and painting; and

1 WHEREAS, The \$31 million state-of-the-art paint facility
2 opened its doors at the York plant in 1992; and

3 WHEREAS, The two facilities together employ approximately
4 2,650 people; and

5 WHEREAS, Over the years, thousands of Harley-Davidson
6 enthusiasts have trekked to York to witness firsthand the living
7 legacy of Harley-Davidson USA; and

8 WHEREAS, William S. Harley, Arthur Davidson, Walter Davidson
9 and William A. Davidson were inducted into the Labor Hall of
10 Fame because of their dedicated employees who produced quality
11 motorcycles, and Harley-Davidson continues to sustain a loyal
12 brand community which remains active through clubs, events and
13 its museum; and

14 WHEREAS, The Harley-Davidson motorcycle is a true-blue
15 American iron horse manufactured in Pennsylvania by American
16 workers using American steel.

17 The General Assembly of the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania
18 hereby enacts as follows:

19 Section 1. Official State motorcycle.

20 The Harley-Davidson motorcycle is selected, designated and
21 adopted as the official State motorcycle of Pennsylvania.

22 Section 2. Effective date.

23 This act shall take effect in 60 days.