

---

THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF PENNSYLVANIA

---

HOUSE RESOLUTION

No. 729 Session of  
2014

---

INTRODUCED BY MATZIE, KIRKLAND, DiGIROLAMO, DAVIS, COHEN,  
SACCONI, SCHLOSSBERG, KORTZ, MILLARD, CALTAGIRONE, KINSEY,  
BOBACK, FLYNN, THOMAS, SWANGER, FREEMAN, D. COSTA, MARSHALL,  
DeLUCA, YOUNGBLOOD AND ROSS, MARCH 19, 2014

---

INTRODUCED AS NONCONTROVERSIAL RESOLUTION UNDER RULE 35,  
MARCH 19, 2014

---

A RESOLUTION

1 Designating the week of March 16 through 22, 2014, as "Sunshine  
2 Week" in Pennsylvania.

3 WHEREAS, The basic principles of freedom of speech and  
4 freedom of the press guaranteed in the Constitution of the  
5 United States are fundamental to our national heritage; and

6 WHEREAS, Since 2005, the American Society of Newspaper  
7 Editors annually observes Sunshine Week in mid-March, which  
8 timing coincides with James Madison's birthday on March 16, as a  
9 nonpartisan, nonprofit initiative to illustrate the importance  
10 of open government; and

11 WHEREAS, Sunshine Week participation by nonjournalism groups  
12 is growing, with national and local forums planned by civic  
13 groups, libraries and open government and freedom of information  
14 groups, as well as by student media; and

15 WHEREAS, Sunshine Week was established to spark a discussion  
16 about the importance of open government and public access to

1 government documents and meetings; and

2 WHEREAS, These issues are important in this Commonwealth,  
3 where public access issues emerge all the time; therefore be it

4 RESOLVED, That the House of Representatives designate the  
5 week of March 16 through 22, 2014, as "Sunshine Week" in  
6 Pennsylvania; and be it further

7 RESOLVED, That all citizens be urged to join in this  
8 observance of the basic principles of an open and accessible  
9 government in a free society.