
THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF PENNSYLVANIA

HOUSE RESOLUTION

No. 628 Session of
2015

INTRODUCED BY V. BROWN, ROZZI, NEILSON, COHEN, CALTAGIRONE,
HENNESSEY, READSHAW, LONGIETTI, KIRKLAND, ACOSTA, HARKINS,
KOTIK, ROEBUCK, GODSHALL, DRISCOLL, DUSH, SONNEY, PASHINSKI,
R. BROWN, SAINATO, VEREB, WATSON, KINSEY, O'NEILL, MARSICO,
MILLARD, MARKOSEK, BIZZARRO, ROTHMAN, YOUNGBLOOD, DIGIROLAMO,
MENTZER, FREEMAN, KAVULICH, MCNEILL, THOMAS, WHEELAND,
SCHWEYER, ROSS AND GOODMAN, FEBRUARY 5, 2016

INTRODUCED AS NONCONTROVERSIAL RESOLUTION UNDER RULE 35,
FEBRUARY 5, 2016

A RESOLUTION

1 Designating the month of February 2016 as "Black History Month"
2 in Pennsylvania.

3 WHEREAS, The contributions of African-American citizens as
4 scientists, inventors, legislators, farmers, educators,
5 explorers and countless other professions have greatly benefited
6 this Commonwealth and our nation; and

7 WHEREAS, On February 7, 1926, Dr. Carter Goodwin Woodson, an
8 African-American historian, recognized these contributions and
9 accomplishments and designated the second week of February as
10 "Negro History Week," chosen for the initial week-long
11 celebration to honor the birth month of President Abraham
12 Lincoln and abolitionist Frederick Douglass; and

13 WHEREAS, Dr. Woodson is often called the "Father of Black
14 History," dedicating his life to the field of African-American
15 history and encouraging the coordinated teaching and study of

1 the history of American blacks in schools; and

2 WHEREAS, In 1976, President Gerald Ford officially recognized
3 and expanded "Black History Month" as part of the United States
4 Bicentennial, urging Americans to "seize the opportunity to
5 honor the too often neglected accomplishments of black Americans
6 in every area of endeavor throughout our history"; and

7 WHEREAS, The Pennsylvania Legislative Black Caucus has always
8 endeavored to vigorously advocate for the needs of all people of
9 color in this Commonwealth by acting as one voice concerning the
10 issues that most acutely influence their daily lives; and

11 WHEREAS, "Black History Month" is an opportunity for all
12 Americans to commemorate the struggles and victories of African
13 Americans in our history, their invaluable contributions to
14 society and their unyielding dedication to the overall
15 protection and defense of our nation in matters of both war and
16 peace; therefore be it

17 RESOLVED, That the House of Representatives designate the
18 month of February 2016 as "Black History Month" in Pennsylvania
19 in recognition of the invaluable contributions of African
20 Americans to this Commonwealth and our nation and encourage all
21 citizens to explore the rich and significant heritage of the
22 African-American community.