

THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF PENNSYLVANIA

HOUSE RESOLUTION

No. 759 Session of
2015

INTRODUCED BY FRANKEL, MAHER, SACCONI, BURNS, COHEN,
CALTAGIRONE, READSHAW, P. COSTA, THOMAS, MARKOSEK, BAKER,
LONGIETTI, ENGLISH, RAVENSTAHL, D. COSTA, CONKLIN, GERGELY,
DUSH, SONNEY, O'NEILL, MILLARD, MURT, VEREB, GODSHALL,
HEFFLEY, KINSEY, MACKENZIE, KIRKLAND, WHEELAND, NEILSON,
WATSON, DIGIROLAMO, ELLIS, MARSICO, ROSS, V. BROWN, SAINATO,
WARD, DEASY, GIBBONS AND EVERETT, MARCH 22, 2016

INTRODUCED AS NONCONTROVERSIAL RESOLUTION UNDER RULE 35,
MARCH 22, 2016

A RESOLUTION

1 Designating March 22, 2016, as "Pitt Day in Harrisburg."

2 WHEREAS, The University of Pittsburgh (Pitt) was founded in
3 1787, making it one of the oldest institutions of higher
4 education in the United States; and

5 WHEREAS, A State-related institution since 1966, Pitt
6 continues to advance its mission as a leader in education, a
7 pioneer in research and a partner with the Commonwealth in
8 economic development; and

9 WHEREAS, As one of the largest institutions of higher
10 education in this Commonwealth, Pitt is home to approximately
11 25,000 undergraduate students and more than 10,000 graduate
12 students; and

13 WHEREAS, Pitt is one of the nation's best institutions for
14 undergraduate education according to *The Princeton Review's*

1 2016 edition of its annual college guide, *The Best 380 Colleges*;
2 and

3 WHEREAS, Thomson Reuters ranked Pitt 30th on its list of the
4 world's 100 most innovative universities in 2015, based on such
5 criteria as research output and patent filings; and

6 WHEREAS, Pitt was the only Pennsylvania public college or
7 university included in *The Princeton Review-USA TODAY* national
8 "Best Value Colleges for 2014" list, based on academic quality,
9 cost and financial aid; and

10 WHEREAS, Pitt ranks seventh nationally in federally financed
11 research and development expenditures and ranks fifth among all
12 American universities in terms of the competitive grants awarded
13 to members of its faculty by the National Institutes of Health;
14 and

15 WHEREAS, For the 11th consecutive year, Pitt has been ranked
16 as the top value among all public universities in Pennsylvania
17 by *Kiplinger's Personal Finance*; and

18 WHEREAS, Victory Media named Pitt a 2015 Military Friendly
19 School, a designation that recognizes the top 15% of United
20 States colleges, universities and trade schools that are doing
21 the most to ensure the success of veterans inside and outside of
22 the classroom; and

23 WHEREAS, *U.S. News & World Report* ranks Pitt's Bradford,
24 Greensburg and Johnstown campuses among the best baccalaureate
25 colleges in the northern United States; and

26 WHEREAS, Each year, Pitt confers thousands of undergraduate,
27 graduate and professional degrees; and

28 WHEREAS, In recent years, Pitt alumni have won numerous
29 awards and accolades, including the Nobel Peace Prize, Nobel
30 Prize in Medicine, Pulitzer Prize for fiction, National Book

1 Award for Poetry, Fritz Medal in engineering and National Medal
2 of Science; and

3 WHEREAS, Pitt undergraduates have won 7 Rhodes Scholarships,
4 9 Marshall Scholarships, 11 Truman Scholarships, 8 Udall
5 Scholarships, 1 Gates Cambridge Scholarship, 2 Churchill
6 Scholarships and 45 Goldwater Scholarships; and

7 WHEREAS, Pitt has earned status as an academic standout in
8 the world of higher education and an economic powerhouse in
9 western Pennsylvania; and

10 WHEREAS, Pitt employs more than 13,000 Pennsylvania residents
11 at its main campus and campuses in Bradford, Greensburg,
12 Johnstown and Titusville; and

13 WHEREAS, Pitt provides approximately \$188 million in State
14 and local tax revenue and generates an economic impact of \$3.7
15 billion for the Commonwealth; and

16 WHEREAS, This year marks the 20th year of "Pitt Day in
17 Harrisburg"; and

18 WHEREAS, "Pitt Day in Harrisburg" is sponsored by Pitt
19 Advocates and the Pitt Alumni Association in partnership with
20 the Office of Community and Governmental Relations of the
21 University of Pittsburgh; and

22 WHEREAS, "Pitt Day in Harrisburg" has given members of the
23 General Assembly an opportunity to talk with alumni, faculty and
24 students about their work and to gain a firsthand perspective of
25 the challenges and changes facing public higher education; and

26 WHEREAS, Pitt's "Legislative Day" started as a small
27 breakfast gathering, attended predominantly by local legislative
28 staff, in the chancellor's office on campus; and

29 WHEREAS, This event has evolved into "Pitt Day in
30 Harrisburg," a daylong celebration of the university and its

1 accomplishments in the Capitol; and

2 WHEREAS, "Pitt Day in Harrisburg" has become an annual
3 opportunity for Pitt's alumni and friends to advocate for the
4 university; and

5 WHEREAS, "Pitt Day in Harrisburg" is regularly enjoyed by
6 members of the Governor's administration, General Assembly,
7 their staff, alumni and friends of the university; therefore be
8 it

9 RESOLVED, That the House of Representatives designate March
10 22, 2016, as "Pitt Day in Harrisburg" and recognize the
11 tremendous impact the University of Pittsburgh has on this
12 Commonwealth.