
THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF PENNSYLVANIA

HOUSE RESOLUTION

No. 930 Session of
2015

INTRODUCED BY TAYLOR AND BOYLE, JUNE 16, 2016

INTRODUCED AS NONCONTROVERSIAL RESOLUTION UNDER RULE 35,
JUNE 16, 2016

A RESOLUTION

1 Designating the month of June 2016 as "Milkweed for Monarchs
2 Month" in Pennsylvania.

3 WHEREAS, The monarch butterfly is one of the most iconic
4 insects in the United States; and

5 WHEREAS, The monarch butterflies have two potential migratory
6 paths, those living in Colorado migrate to warm California
7 shores and those living in Canada migrate to central Mexico to
8 avoid the cold; and

9 WHEREAS, Though there were estimated to be more than 1
10 billion monarch butterflies during the 1996-1997 migration
11 season, only 35 million are presently believed to remain in
12 North America; and

13 WHEREAS, The reason behind the decline is unconfirmed, but
14 speculated to be a number of issues, including the loss of
15 agricultural land, severe weather interrupting migration or an
16 increased use of herbicides that kill the plants on which
17 monarch butterflies rely; and

18 WHEREAS, The milkweed plant is vital to the survival of the

1 monarch butterflies as it is the only plant on which the monarch
2 caterpillars can develop; and

3 WHEREAS, The Insectarium in Philadelphia, led by Dr. John
4 Cambridge, is spearheading several initiatives to monitor and
5 aid in the monarchs' flight including surveying for parasites
6 and organizing milkweed planting events; and

7 WHEREAS, It is our responsibility to care for and conserve
8 the creatures and natural resources in our environment;
9 therefore be it

10 RESOLVED, That the House of Representatives designate the
11 month of June 2016 as "Milkweed for Monarchs Month"; and be it
12 further

13 RESOLVED, That the House of Representatives encourage
14 residents of this Commonwealth to plant and grow milkweed so
15 that the monarch butterflies and caterpillars have a food source
16 and a place to lay eggs; and be it further

17 RESOLVED, That the Commonwealth be a leader among states by
18 planting milkweed along highways, in parks and in other suitable
19 areas around the State.