
THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF PENNSYLVANIA

SENATE RESOLUTION

No. 428 Session of
2015

INTRODUCED BY FARNESE, DINNIMAN, GREENLEAF, TEPLITZ, KILLION,
BROWNE, FONTANA, COSTA, RAFFERTY, YUDICHAK AND BOSCOLA,
SEPTEMBER 26, 2016

INTRODUCED AND ADOPTED, SEPTEMBER 26, 2016

A RESOLUTION

1 Recognizing September 21, 2016, as "International Day of Peace"
2 in Pennsylvania and supporting the ideals observed for this
3 worldwide event.

4 WHEREAS, The ideal of peace encompasses the deepest hopes of
5 all peoples and remains humanity's guiding inspiration; and

6 WHEREAS, This Commonwealth was founded by William Penn on the
7 principles of peace, freedom and equality; and

8 WHEREAS, The United Nations believes in this same vision and
9 works to promote the ideals and principles of peace and human
10 rights across the globe; and

11 WHEREAS, The United Nations' "International Day of Peace,"
12 established in 1981, offers an annual opportunity on September
13 21 for countries, states, cities, communities and individuals to
14 "commemorate and strengthen the ideals of peace within and among
15 all nations and peoples"; and

16 WHEREAS, In 2001, the United Nations unanimously established
17 "International Day of Peace" on September 21 to be observed each
18 year in promotion of global ceasefire and nonviolence; and

1 WHEREAS, In 2009, the United States Senate passed Senate
2 Resolution No. 274 expressing its support for the goals and
3 ideals celebrated on "Peace Day" and for "continuing efforts to
4 raise global awareness of the goals of Peace Day and to engage
5 all sectors of society in the peaceful observance of the
6 International Day of Peace"; and

7 WHEREAS, On September 21, 2016, people in cities across the
8 world come together through diverse peace education activities,
9 nonviolent skill building, music, marches, spiritual activities,
10 arts projects, community events, environmental efforts and
11 intercultural dialogues, all for the purpose of forwarding a
12 culture of peace; and

13 WHEREAS, "International Day of Peace" observances are wide-
14 ranging, with organizations and cities across this Commonwealth,
15 from Philadelphia to Pittsburgh, creating practical acts of
16 peace for our citizens to further understand and actively
17 participate in a movement of nonviolence; and

18 WHEREAS, Peace Day Philly, a Philadelphia-region initiative
19 that encourages broad-based participation in "International Day
20 of Peace," calls upon all public officials, organizations,
21 neighborhoods, community groups and individuals to actively
22 engage in this global day of local opportunity; and

23 WHEREAS, On September 21 at noon in all time zones, people of
24 all nationalities and religions will observe a minute of silence
25 for peace; and

26 WHEREAS, The United Nations' global theme for "International
27 Day of Peace" 2016 is "The Sustainable Development Goals:
28 Building Blocks for Peace"; and

29 WHEREAS, The global theme recognizes the strong connection
30 between human rights, development, the environment and peace;

1 and

2 WHEREAS, The United Nations Secretary-General Ban Ki-moon
3 stated with regard to the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable
4 Development, that includes the 17 Sustainable Development Goals:
5 "It is an agenda for people, to end poverty in all its forms. An
6 agenda for the planet, our common home. An agenda for shared
7 prosperity, peace and partnership"; and

8 WHEREAS, Conflict resolution and transformation, mediation,
9 mindfulness training and many other skill-based aspects of peace
10 education, as well as intercultural dialogue and other forms of
11 diversity and global awareness activities, are critical to the
12 development of peace-building skills and global citizenship
13 among children and youth; therefore be it

14 RESOLVED, That the Senate recognize September 21, 2016, as
15 "International Day of Peace" in Pennsylvania and express its
16 support for the goals and ideals celebrated worldwide by
17 encouraging and commending all residents of this Commonwealth
18 who actively promote and participate in diverse peace,
19 nonviolence and unity-building activities in observance of
20 "International Day of Peace."