
THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF PENNSYLVANIA

HOUSE RESOLUTION

No. 264 Session of
2017

INTRODUCED BY GILLEN, BARRAR, BENNINGHOFF, BIZZARRO,
CALTAGIRONE, CONKLIN, CORBIN, D. COSTA, COX, DRISCOLL, FARRY,
FREEMAN, GABLER, GOODMAN, GREINER, GROVE, HAHN, HENNESSEY,
HICKERNELL, JAMES, KAUFFMAN, KINSEY, KNOWLES, KORTZ,
LONGIETTI, MACKENZIE, MARSHALL, MARSICO, MILLARD, MOUL, MURT,
NEILSON, O'NEILL, PICKETT, QUIGLEY, READSHAW, SAYLOR, STURLA,
WARD AND WATSON, APRIL 19, 2017

INTRODUCED AS NONCONTROVERSIAL RESOLUTION UNDER RULE 35,
APRIL 19, 2017

A RESOLUTION

1 Commemorating April 18, 2017, as "Doolittle Raiders Remembrance
2 Day" in Pennsylvania.

3 WHEREAS, April 18, 2017, marks the 75th anniversary of the
4 Doolittle Raid, the first United States air attack on the main
5 island of Japan after the attack on Pearl Harbor; and

6 WHEREAS, The raid is considered to have served as an enormous
7 boost to American morale in the Pacific following the
8 devastation from the Pearl Harbor attack and subsequent defeats
9 in the Pacific that had overwhelmed the spirit of the American
10 people and the United States Navy; and

11 WHEREAS, Lieutenant Colonel James H. "Jimmy" Doolittle led 16
12 B-25 bombers, launching off the aircraft carrier U.S.S. *Hornet*
13 in a daring attack on the home island of Japan, including Tokyo;
14 and

15 WHEREAS, The mission was known to be both dangerous and one

1 of the first attempts to launch bombers from the deck of an
2 aircraft carrier; and

3 WHEREAS, Of the 80 servicepersons who conducted the raid,
4 later to be referred to as the Doolittle Raiders, 7 were killed
5 or fatally injured in the attack, 3 were executed by the
6 Japanese and 1 died from starvation as prisoners of war and four
7 others were tortured as prisoners of war until their release in
8 1945; and

9 WHEREAS, Most of the surviving Doolittle Raiders continued to
10 serve their country during the remainder of the war, resulting
11 in 10 men being killed in action and 4 men being shot down and
12 interned as German prisoners of war; and

13 WHEREAS, All of the Doolittle Raiders received the
14 Distinguished Flying Cross, two received the Silver Star, and
15 Lt. Col. Doolittle was awarded the Medal of Honor for leading
16 the mission; and

17 WHEREAS, The attack was a tremendous boost to American morale
18 and set the stage for future American victories such as the
19 Battle of Midway; therefore be it

20 RESOLVED, That the House of Representatives commemorate April
21 18, 2017, as "Doolittle Raiders Remembrance Day" in
22 Pennsylvania; and be it further

23 RESOLVED, That the House of Representatives encourage local
24 governments and the communities throughout this Commonwealth to
25 conduct appropriate "Doolittle Raiders Remembrance Day"
26 observances to ensure that the many sacrifices of that day are
27 not forgotten.