
THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF PENNSYLVANIA

SENATE RESOLUTION

No. 143 Session of
2017

INTRODUCED BY STREET, DINNIMAN, FONTANA AND SCHWANK,
JUNE 14, 2017

INTRODUCED AND ADOPTED, JUNE 14, 2017

A RESOLUTION

1 Observing June 25, 2017, as "Eid al-Fitr Day" in Pennsylvania.

2 WHEREAS, This Commonwealth, specifically Philadelphia, is
3 lauded as the nation's birthplace; and

4 WHEREAS, Founded by William Penn as an example of religious
5 tolerance and exemplified by language in the 1701 Charter of
6 Privileges which guaranteed religious freedom to all,
7 Philadelphia continues to be a pillar of religious acceptance;
8 and

9 WHEREAS, This Commonwealth is estimated to be home to more
10 than 300,000 Muslims; and

11 WHEREAS, Muslims recognize two major religious observances
12 each year, Ramadan and Hajj, each connected with the
13 corresponding holiday of Eid al-Fitr and Eid al-Adha; and

14 WHEREAS, The Eid al-Fitr and Eid al-Adha are observed
15 according to the lunar-based Islamic calendar; and

16 WHEREAS, Eid al-Fitr is celebrated on the first day of the
17 Islamic month of Shawwal and marks the end of Ramadan, which is

1 a month of fasting and prayer; and

2 WHEREAS, In addition to celebrating the end of fasting with
3 great feasts, many Muslims attend communal prayers, listen to a
4 sermon known as khutbah and give Zakat al-fitr, which is charity
5 in the form of food; and

6 WHEREAS, Eid al-Adha also known as the "Greater Eid," is
7 celebrated on the 10th day of the Islamic month of Dhul-Hijjah
8 to commemorate the millions of Muslims participating in the
9 Hajj, the pilgrimage to Mecca, by attending communal prayers,
10 listening to a khutbah and in the spirit of sacrifice, offering
11 food to be distributed to other less fortunate neighbors in the
12 community; and

13 WHEREAS, Islam in America is a moral and religious system
14 that encourages self-determination, self-development, moral
15 discipline and community empowerment based on virtues of
16 freedom, justice and equality in many ways similar to the
17 ideology of William Penn; therefore be it

18 RESOLVED, That the Senate to observe June 25, 2017, as "Eid
19 al-Fitr Day" in Pennsylvania.