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THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF PENNSYLVANIA

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HOUSE BILL

No. 2340 Session of  
2020

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INTRODUCED BY RABB, SCHLOSSBERG, LEE, OTTEN, HILL-EVANS,  
McCARTER, MADDEN AND WILLIAMS, MARCH 10, 2020

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REFERRED TO COMMITTEE ON STATE GOVERNMENT, MARCH 10, 2020

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AN ACT

1 Providing for the observance of Election Day of each year as a  
2 legal holiday.

3 The General Assembly of the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania  
4 hereby enacts as follows:

5 Section 1. Short title.

6 This act shall be known and may be cited as the Election Day  
7 Act.

8 Section 2. Definitions.

9 The following words and phrases when used in this act shall  
10 have the meanings given to them in this section unless the  
11 context clearly indicates otherwise:

12 "Election Day." The first Tuesday after the first Monday of  
13 November.

14 "Municipality." A county, city, borough, incorporated town,  
15 township or home rule municipality.

16 "Private employer." An employer engaged in business in this  
17 Commonwealth. The term does not include a public employer or a  
18 public school entity.

1 "Public employer." The Commonwealth or a municipality. The  
2 term does not include a public school entity.

3 "Public school entity." Any of the following:

4 (1) A school district.

5 (2) An intermediate unit.

6 (3) An area vocational-technical school.

7 (4) A charter school, cyber charter school or regional  
8 charter school, as those terms are defined in section 1703-A  
9 of the act of March 10, 1949 (P.L.30, No.14), known as the  
10 Public School Code of 1949.

11 Section 3. Proclamation.

12 The Governor shall issue annually a proclamation designating  
13 Election Day as a legal holiday and calling upon residents of  
14 this Commonwealth to:

15 (1) Celebrate voting as the foundation of democratic  
16 government and as something that should be protected,  
17 promoted and practiced.

18 (2) Honor the heroic individuals who have given their  
19 lives to protect the right to vote.

20 (3) Recognize the basic right of qualified electors to  
21 vote.

22 (4) Exercise the right to vote.

23 Section 4. Exercise of right to vote.

24 In observing Election Day as a legal holiday, each public  
25 employer, private employer and public school entity may provide  
26 its employees sufficient time, to the extent practicable, to  
27 exercise the right to vote on Election Day.

28 Section 5. This act shall take effect in 60 days.