
THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF PENNSYLVANIA

HOUSE RESOLUTION

No. 281 Session of
2019

INTRODUCED BY GILLESPIE, KORTZ, RYAN, PICKETT, MURT,
CALTAGIRONE, ZIMMERMAN, FREEMAN, LONGIETTI, VITALI, BARRAR,
READSHAW, MULLINS, KINSEY, MEHAFFIE, HILL-EVANS, MILLARD,
STAATS, MARKOSEK, NEILSON, DIGIROLAMO, MENTZER, STURLA,
SAYLOR AND GILLEN, APRIL 30, 2019

INTRODUCED AS NONCONTROVERSIAL RESOLUTION UNDER RULE 35,
APRIL 30, 2019

A RESOLUTION

1 Designating the week of June 2 through 8, 2019, as "Chesapeake
2 Bay Awareness Week" in Pennsylvania.

3 WHEREAS, The Chesapeake Bay is the largest and most
4 productive estuary in the United States, with its watershed
5 spanning six states and the District of Columbia; and

6 WHEREAS, The Chesapeake Bay is fed by 50 major tributaries,
7 the largest being the Susquehanna River, which provides 50% of
8 the fresh water to the bay; and

9 WHEREAS, Stretching 200 miles from Havre de Grace, Maryland,
10 to Norfolk, Virginia, the Chesapeake Bay has an average depth of
11 21 feet and ranges from 3.4 to 35 miles wide; and

12 WHEREAS, The Chesapeake Bay supports 348 species of finfish,
13 173 species of shellfish and more than 3,600 species of plant
14 and animal life, including 2,700 types of plants and more than
15 16 species of underwater grasses; and

16 WHEREAS, The Chesapeake Bay produces more than 500 million

1 pounds of seafood harvest each year; and

2 WHEREAS, The Chesapeake Bay's tributaries in this
3 Commonwealth are an important source of drinking water and
4 recreational fishing and boating for this Commonwealth; and

5 WHEREAS, The Chesapeake Bay watershed covers 64,000 square
6 miles, which encompasses half of this Commonwealth; and

7 WHEREAS, The Chesapeake Bay watershed is an extraordinary and
8 vital natural resource, with some of the nation's most
9 productive farm and forest lands in this Commonwealth's portion
10 of the watershed; and

11 WHEREAS, This productivity supported the settlement and
12 growth of our nation and is a vital resource for future
13 generations; and

14 WHEREAS, The Chesapeake Bay area is home to more than 18
15 million people, many of whom rely upon the bay for their
16 livelihood and recreational activities; and

17 WHEREAS, The rich history, pivotal economic importance and
18 astounding beauty of the Chesapeake Bay watershed never cease to
19 amaze residents and visitors alike; therefore be it

20 RESOLVED, That the House of Representatives designate the
21 week of June 2 through 8, 2019, as "Chesapeake Bay Awareness
22 Week" in Pennsylvania; and be it further

23 RESOLVED, That the House of Representatives encourage all
24 residents of this Commonwealth to commemorate "Chesapeake Bay
25 Awareness Week" with events and educational programs designed to
26 increase awareness of the importance of the Chesapeake Bay to
27 this Commonwealth, the region and the United States.