
THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF PENNSYLVANIA

HOUSE RESOLUTION

No. 296 Session of
2019

INTRODUCED BY KINSEY, BURGOS, WEBSTER, HILL-EVANS, DONATUCCI,
BIZZARRO, FRANKEL, KORTZ, BURNS, CALTAGIRONE, HOHENSTEIN,
TOEPEL, KENYATTA, McNEILL, GROVE, LONGIETTI, RYAN,
SCHLOSSBERG, JAMES, COX, JOHNSON-HARRELL, MILLARD, BERNSTINE,
WARREN, HENNESSEY, RABB, PICKETT, FREEMAN, MACKENZIE, BARRAR,
KAUFFMAN, PASHINSKI, O'MARA AND STAATS, MAY 1, 2019

INTRODUCED AS NONCONTROVERSIAL RESOLUTION UNDER RULE 35,
MAY 1, 2019

A RESOLUTION

1 Designating May 8, 2019, as "Tuskegee Airmen Day" in
2 Pennsylvania.

3 WHEREAS, During World War I, African Americans were
4 prohibited from serving as military pilots in the United States
5 Armed Forces due to their race; and

6 WHEREAS, In 1939, in response to advocacy by civil rights
7 leaders and the National Association for the Advancement of
8 Colored People, the Congress of the United States approved
9 funding designated for the training of African-American military
10 pilots; and

11 WHEREAS, On March 22, 1941, the United States Army Air Corps
12 99th Pursuit Squadron was activated to become the first African-
13 American fighter squadron; and

14 WHEREAS, The members of the 99th Pursuit Squadron were the
15 first to be known as Tuskegee Airmen because they had received

1 their initial flight training at Moton Field, a segregated air
2 base in Tuskegee, Alabama; and

3 WHEREAS, Other Tuskegee Airmen would later form the famous
4 332nd Fighter Group, also known as the "Red Tails" due to the
5 distinctive red marking on the tail of their aircraft; and

6 WHEREAS, Between 1941 and 1946, nearly 1,000 African-American
7 military pilots were trained in Tuskegee, Alabama; and

8 WHEREAS, During World War II, the Tuskegee Airmen flew more
9 than 15,000 sorties and lost 66 men in the line of duty, one of
10 the lowest loss records of any escort fighter group; and

11 WHEREAS, The courage, dedication and service of the Tuskegee
12 Airmen men and women continues to inspire both military
13 personnel and civilians of all backgrounds throughout this
14 country; therefore be it

15 RESOLVED, That the House of Representatives designate May 8,
16 2019, as "Tuskegee Airmen Day" in Pennsylvania.