
THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF PENNSYLVANIA

HOUSE RESOLUTION

No. 792 Session of
2020

INTRODUCED BY YOUNGBLOOD, HOHENSTEIN, DUNBAR, MARKOSEK, KIM,
KORTZ, RABB, DONATUCCI, SONNEY, MURT, LONGIETTI, HARRIS,
MEHAFFIE, MENTZER, CRUZ, HILL-EVANS, MILLARD, SCHLEGEL
CULVER, RYAN, BURNS, BROWN, KENYATTA, ROZZI, GALLOWAY,
GAINNEY, NEILSON, DeLUCA, KIRKLAND, ROEBUCK AND CONKLIN,
MARCH 4, 2020

REFERRED TO COMMITTEE ON EDUCATION, MARCH 4, 2020

A RESOLUTION

1 Honoring the 200th anniversary of the Pennsylvania School for
2 the Deaf.

3 WHEREAS, In 1820 a businessman named David Seixas became
4 concerned about the welfare of the deaf children he encountered
5 on the streets in Philadelphia; and

6 WHEREAS, He began to educate these children in his home on
7 Market Street in Philadelphia and in doing so founded the
8 Pennsylvania School for the Deaf; and

9 WHEREAS, The renown deaf Frenchman and educator Laurent Clerc
10 became the Pennsylvania School for the Deaf's second principal
11 in 1821, after the school moved to a building located on the
12 southeastern corner of Eleventh and Market Streets; and

13 WHEREAS, Also in 1821, the General Assembly authorized the
14 State Treasurer to appropriate \$8,000 to the Pennsylvania School
15 for the Deaf thus giving the school the financial backing that
16 it needed to effectively operate and educate students; and

1 WHEREAS, In 1984, after relocating buildings two additional
2 times over the course of many years, the Pennsylvania School for
3 the Deaf purchased and completely renovated its current home at
4 the former Germantown Academy Campus on West School House Lane
5 in Philadelphia; and

6 WHEREAS, As the third oldest school for the deaf in the
7 nation, the Pennsylvania School for the Deaf currently serves
8 180 deaf and hard of hearing students enrolled in Pre-K to 12th
9 grade from 33 school districts in southeastern Pennsylvania and
10 southern New Jersey; and

11 WHEREAS, Over the past two centuries, the Pennsylvania School
12 for the Deaf has committed itself to educating and empowering
13 its students, and, accordingly, its teachers strive to prepare
14 and encourage them to be confident in knowing that every
15 individual has the aptitude to contribute great things to their
16 community; and

17 WHEREAS, As Pennsylvanians, we should all be proud of the
18 tradition of excellence and the accomplishments of this great
19 school, its educators and, of course, its students; therefore be
20 it

21 RESOLVED, That the House of Representatives honor the 200th
22 anniversary of the Pennsylvania School for the Deaf; and be it
23 further

24 RESOLVED, That a copy of this resolution be transmitted to
25 the Pennsylvania School for the Deaf at 100 West School House
26 Lane, Philadelphia, PA 19144.