
THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF PENNSYLVANIA

HOUSE RESOLUTION

No. 795 Session of
2020

INTRODUCED BY BENNINGHOFF, BERNSTINE, BOBACK, BURNS, CONKLIN, COX, SCHLEGEL CULVER, DeLUCA, EVERETT, GREINER, HAHN, HENNESSEY, HICKERNELL, HILL-EVANS, JOZWIAK, M. K. KELLER, KIM, KINSEY, KLUNK, KNOWLES, KORTZ, LONGIETTI, MACKENZIE, MALAGARI, McNEILL, MEHAFFIE, MERSKI, MILLARD, MURT, NEILSON, OBERLANDER, PICKETT, POLINCHOCK, RAVENSTAHL, READSHAW, RIGBY, ROTHMAN, ROZZI, RYAN, SANKEY, SAYLOR, SCHEMEL, SCHLOSSBERG, SCHMITT, SONNEY, THOMAS, TOEPEL, VITALI, YOUNGBLOOD, McCLINTON AND O'MARA, MARCH 4, 2020

REFERRED TO COMMITTEE ON EDUCATION, MARCH 4, 2020

A RESOLUTION

1 Congratulating The Pennsylvania State University IFC/Panhellenic
2 Dance Marathon (THON) for raising more than \$11 million for
3 the Four Diamonds Fund at Penn State Hershey Children's
4 Hospital to help fight pediatric cancer.

5 WHEREAS, THON is the commonly referred-to name for The
6 Pennsylvania State University IFC/Panhellenic Dance Marathon,
7 the largest student-run philanthropy event in the world; and

8 WHEREAS, THON is a yearlong fundraising and awareness
9 campaign to fight pediatric cancer, sustained by more than
10 16,500 volunteers who donate more than 5 million hours of their
11 own time, that culminates in a 46-hour dance marathon in which
12 dancers are required to be continuously moving and not allowed
13 to sit or sleep; and

14 WHEREAS, In 1977, THON partnered with the Four Diamonds Fund
15 at Penn State Hershey Children's Hospital and chose Four

1 Diamonds as the sole beneficiary of THON's fundraising efforts;
2 and

3 WHEREAS, Four Diamonds offsets the cost of treatment that
4 insurance does not cover, including medical and emotional
5 support to ensure that all of a child's needs are met, and
6 supports the medical team that cares for the children; and

7 WHEREAS, Four Diamonds funds pediatric cancer research
8 through start-up grants and the Four Diamonds Pediatric Cancer
9 Research Center and cares directly for 500 children with cancer,
10 100 of which are children who have been newly diagnosed; and

11 WHEREAS, Since 1977, THON has raised more than \$168 million
12 to help provide emotional and financial support to the children,
13 families, researchers and staff of the Four Diamonds Fund; and

14 WHEREAS, THON 2020 took place February 21 through 23, 2020,
15 at the Bryce Jordan Center at The Pennsylvania State University;
16 and

17 WHEREAS, THON 2020, Journey Together, revealed its total
18 fundraising amount of \$11,696,942.38; and

19 WHEREAS, THON has inspired similar events and organizations
20 across the United States, including at high schools and
21 institutions of higher education, and continues to encourage
22 students throughout the nation to volunteer and stay involved in
23 great charitable causes in their communities; and

24 WHEREAS, Since its introduction, THON has supported more than
25 4,000 children and families with childhood cancer and to this
26 day continues to enable research and improve treatments, cures
27 and benefits to ensure the cure of children with cancer around
28 the world; therefore be it

29 RESOLVED, That the House of Representatives congratulate The
30 Pennsylvania State University IFC/Panhellenic Dance Marathon on

1 its continued success in support of the Four Diamonds Fund at
2 Penn State Hershey Children's Hospital and commend The
3 Pennsylvania State University students, volunteers and
4 supporting organizations for their hard work in putting THON
5 together.