
THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF PENNSYLVANIA

HOUSE RESOLUTION

No. 898 Session of
2020

INTRODUCED BY HILL-EVANS, BIZZARRO, DONATUCCI, SCHMITT,
KENYATTA, RYAN, SONNEY, KORTZ, MERSKI, MURT, KINSEY, BOBACK,
MILLARD, GALLOWAY, SCHWEYER, PASHINSKI, BURNS, LONGIETTI,
HOWARD, NEILSON, BROWN, YOUNGBLOOD, ROZZI, ZIMMERMAN, MENTZER
AND SCHLEGEL CULVER, JUNE 23, 2020

REFERRED TO COMMITTEE ON AGRICULTURE AND RURAL AFFAIRS,
JUNE 23, 2020

A RESOLUTION

1 Designating the month of August 2020 as "Pennsylvania Produce
2 Month" in Pennsylvania.

3 WHEREAS, This Commonwealth's fruit and vegetable production
4 industry is an important contributor to the State's economy; and

5 WHEREAS, This Commonwealth is among the nation's top
6 producers of bell peppers, cantaloupes, pumpkins, snap beans,
7 sweet corn, apples, grapes and peaches; and

8 WHEREAS, This Commonwealth is the nation's leading producer
9 of mushrooms; and

10 WHEREAS, Altogether, more than 70,000 acres of this
11 Commonwealth's farmland are used in the production of fruits and
12 vegetables; and

13 WHEREAS, More than 90% of farms in this Commonwealth are
14 family owned; and

15 WHEREAS, There are approximately 1,000 farmers markets in
16 this Commonwealth, which allow farmers to sell directly to

1 consumers and are crucial for bringing fresh produce into
2 communities; and

3 WHEREAS, This Commonwealth ranks first among the states in
4 the number of farms that make direct sales to consumers and
5 ranks third in total direct sales to consumers, totaling \$224
6 million in 2015; and

7 WHEREAS, The farmers and workers who grow, pick and transport
8 our food work tirelessly to ensure that this Commonwealth and
9 the nation as a whole remain fed and nourished; and

10 WHEREAS, Health authorities have long encouraged increased
11 consumption of fruits and vegetables for good nutrition and
12 disease prevention; and

13 WHEREAS, Fruits and vegetables are both delicious and
14 nutritious, providing important vitamins, fiber and other
15 nutrients essential to a healthy, balanced diet; and

16 WHEREAS, The PA Preferred program was established in 2004 to
17 help Pennsylvanians identify produce that has been grown,
18 harvested and, if applicable, processed in this Commonwealth;
19 and

20 WHEREAS, PA Preferred produce can be recognized by the
21 program's registered logo, a blue keystone with a gold
22 checkmark; and

23 WHEREAS, Fresh Pennsylvania fruits and vegetables are
24 available in abundant supply and top quality at community
25 farmers markets, roadside farm markets and supermarkets
26 throughout this Commonwealth; therefore be it

27 RESOLVED, That the House of Representatives designate the
28 month of August 2020 as "Pennsylvania Produce Month" in
29 Pennsylvania.