
THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF PENNSYLVANIA

HOUSE RESOLUTION

No. 996 Session of
2020

INTRODUCED BY MALAGARI, GALLOWAY, BURNS, TOEPEL, HILL-EVANS,
MACKENZIE, MURT, LONGIETTI, KINSEY, KORTZ, HOWARD, SAINATO,
SCHMITT, NEILSON, DRISCOLL, ZABEL, SANCHEZ, DeLUCA, MILLARD,
READSHAW AND SCHLOSSBERG, SEPTEMBER 14, 2020

INTRODUCED AS NONCONTROVERSIAL RESOLUTION UNDER RULE 35,
SEPTEMBER 14, 2020

A RESOLUTION

1 Recognizing October 6, 2020, as "German-American Day" in
2 Pennsylvania.

3 WHEREAS, On October 6, 1683, 13 families, having sailed
4 earlier from the German City of Krefeld, established Germantown,
5 Pennsylvania, the first German settlement in America; and

6 WHEREAS, Germantown became the first American community to
7 formally protest the evils of slavery in 1688; and

8 WHEREAS, Between the 1680s and the American Revolution, the
9 majority of an estimated 100,000 German immigrants coming to
10 North America settled in Pennsylvania, comprising a third of
11 Philadelphia's population by the 1760s; and

12 WHEREAS, In the many years since, millions of German
13 immigrants have come to the United States and this Commonwealth
14 in pursuit of personal and religious freedoms and economic
15 opportunity; and

16 WHEREAS, Their descendants continue to shape the cultural

1 landscape of this Commonwealth, with more than 3.3 million
2 Pennsylvanians reporting German ancestry, making it the largest
3 ancestry group in this Commonwealth; and

4 WHEREAS, Established in 1764, the German Society of
5 Pennsylvania is the oldest German organization in the United
6 States and serves the State's German-American community; and

7 WHEREAS, The German Society of Pennsylvania, based in
8 Philadelphia, seeks to foster a better understanding between the
9 United States and Germany by advocating awareness of German
10 culture, traditions and contributions to the history, culture,
11 economy, science and technology of the United States; and

12 WHEREAS, Today, Pennsylvania and the Federal Republic of
13 Germany enjoy a close relationship through our shared history
14 and common interests; and

15 WHEREAS, Germany is one of this Commonwealth's most important
16 trade partners, with \$1,562,000,000 in Pennsylvanian exports
17 going to Germany in 2019 and 43,089 workers employed by German-
18 based companies as of 2018; and

19 WHEREAS, German Americans are rightfully proud of how their
20 deep cultural, historical and familial ties have helped
21 strengthen this robust transatlantic relationship; therefore be
22 it

23 RESOLVED, That the House of Representatives recognize October
24 6, 2020, as "German-American Day" in Pennsylvania; and be it
25 further

26 RESOLVED, That the House of Representatives honor the German
27 heritage of Pennsylvania; and be it further

28 RESOLVED, That the House of Representatives celebrate the
29 important relationship between the Commonwealth and the Federal
30 Republic of Germany.