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THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF PENNSYLVANIA

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SENATE RESOLUTION

No. 167 Session of  
2019

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INTRODUCED BY MASTRIANO, JUNE 12, 2019

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INTRODUCED AND ADOPTED, JUNE 12, 2019

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A RESOLUTION

1 Recognizing June 14, 2019, as "National Flag Day" in  
2 Pennsylvania.

3 WHEREAS, On June 14, 2019, Americans are observing the 242nd  
4 anniversary of the flag of the United States of America; and

5 WHEREAS, "Flag Day" provides an opportunity for residents of  
6 this Commonwealth to reflect on the rich history of our nation's  
7 flag and its meaning to Americans and people around the world;  
8 and

9 WHEREAS, The Boy Scouts of America are deeply committed to  
10 preserving the American tradition of honoring "National Flag  
11 Day"; and

12 WHEREAS, The Continental Congress adopted the Stars and  
13 Stripes as the official flag of the United States on June 14,  
14 1777; and

15 WHEREAS, Describing the new flag, the Congress wrote: "White  
16 signifies Purity and Innocence; Red, Hardiness and Valor; Blue  
17 signifies Vigilance, Perseverance and Justice"; and

18 WHEREAS, Over time, the flag's design evolved to keep pace

1 with our nation's development and growth, but its meaning as a  
2 symbol of democracy and freedom has remained constant; and

3 WHEREAS, "Flag Day" was first celebrated throughout the  
4 country in 1877; and

5 WHEREAS, A caring teacher who inspired a love for learning  
6 among his students sparked a renewed interest in the flag; and

7 WHEREAS, Wisconsin teacher B.J. Cigrand arranged for his  
8 pupils to observe the 108th anniversary of the flag's official  
9 adoption in 1885; and

10 WHEREAS, In the following years, B.J. Cigrand promoted an  
11 official national celebration of June 14 as "Flag Birthday" or  
12 "Flag Day" in magazine and newspaper articles and public  
13 addresses; and

14 WHEREAS, Groups in Pennsylvania, New York and Illinois took  
15 up the cause, and after three decades of state and local  
16 celebrations, President Woodrow Wilson officially established  
17 "Flag Day" by proclamation in 1916; and

18 WHEREAS, During World War II, Americans looked to the purity,  
19 hardiness, valor, vigilance, perseverance and justice  
20 represented by the flag as ideals worthy of the ultimate  
21 sacrifice in order to defeat tyranny; and

22 WHEREAS, In celebration of the flag's powerful meaning to  
23 Americans and its place in our culture and history, "Flag Day"  
24 became a national observance by an act of the Congress of the  
25 United States in 1949 and signed into law by President Harry S.  
26 Truman; and

27 WHEREAS, On August 3, 1949, to commemorate the adoption of  
28 the flag of the United States, Congress, by joint resolution,  
29 designated June 14 of each year as "Flag Day" and requested that  
30 the president issue an annual proclamation calling for a

1 national observance and the display of the flag of the United  
2 States on all Federal Government buildings; and

3 WHEREAS, In a second joint resolution, approved June 9, 1966,  
4 Congress requested that the president annually issue a  
5 proclamation designating the week during which June 14 falls as  
6 "National Flag Week" and call upon all citizens of the United  
7 States to display the flag during "National Flag Week";  
8 therefore be it

9 RESOLVED, That the Senate recognize June 14, 2019, as  
10 "National Flag Day" in Pennsylvania.