
THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF PENNSYLVANIA

SENATE RESOLUTION

No. 293 Session of
2020

INTRODUCED BY KILLION, CORMAN, BROWNE, ARGALL, AUMENT, BAKER,
BARTOLOTTA, BLAKE, BOSCOLA, BREWSTER, COSTA, DINNIMAN,
HUGHES, IOVINO, MARTIN, MENSCH, PHILLIPS-HILL, PITTMAN,
REGAN, SANTARSIERO, SCAVELLO, SCHWANK, TARTAGLIONE, J. WARD
AND K. WARD, FEBRUARY 3, 2020

INTRODUCED AND ADOPTED, FEBRUARY 3, 2020

A RESOLUTION

1 Designating the week of February 17 through 23, 2020, as "THON
2 Week" in Pennsylvania and honoring the work of The
3 Pennsylvania State University IFC/Panhellenic Dance Marathon
4 student volunteers.

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's mission is to provide emotional and financial
9 support, spread awareness and ensure funding for critical
10 research in pursuit of a cure for pediatric cancer; and

11 WHEREAS, THON 2020, "Journey Together," celebrates a yearlong
12 fundraising and awareness campaign, sustained by more than
13 16,500 student volunteers who donate more than 5 million hours
14 of their own time; and

15 WHEREAS, THON culminates in a 46-hour dance marathon in which
16 dancers are required to be continuously moving and not allowed
17 to sit or sleep; and

1 WHEREAS, In 1977, THON partnered with the Four Diamonds Fund
2 at Penn State Hershey Children's Hospital and chose Four
3 Diamonds as the sole beneficiary of THON's fundraising efforts;
4 and

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

9 WHEREAS, Four Diamonds funds pediatric cancer research
10 through start-up grants and the Four Diamonds Pediatric Cancer
11 Research Center and cares directly for 500 children with cancer,
12 100 of which are children who have been newly diagnosed; and

13 WHEREAS, Since 1977, THON has raised more than \$167 million
14 to help provide emotional and financial support to the children,
15 families, researchers and staff of the Four Diamonds Fund; and

16 WHEREAS, The total fundraising amount of THON 2019 was
17 \$10,621,683.76; and

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

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

28 RESOLVED, That the Senate designate the week of February 17
29 through 23, 2020, as "THON Week" in Pennsylvania and honor the
30 work of The Pennsylvania State University IFC/Panhellenic Dance

1 Marathon student volunteers.