
THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF PENNSYLVANIA

SENATE RESOLUTION

No. 25 Session of
2021

INTRODUCED BY CORMAN, MARTIN, ARGALL, BARTOLOTTA, BOSCOLA,
BROWNE, FONTANA, HUGHES, LANGERHOLC, MENSCH, PHILLIPS-HILL,
PITTMAN, REGAN, SANTARSIERO, SCAVELLO, STEFANO, VOGEL,
J. WARD, YAW AND YUDICHAK, FEBRUARY 10, 2021

REFERRED TO RULES AND EXECUTIVE NOMINATIONS, FEBRUARY 10, 2021

A RESOLUTION

1 Designating the week of February 15 through 21, 2021, 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 2021 "Rise and Unify," 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

18 WHEREAS, In 1977, THON partnered with the Four Diamonds Fund

1 at Penn State Hershey Children's Hospital and chose Four
2 Diamonds as the sole beneficiary of THON's fundraising efforts;
3 and

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

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

12 WHEREAS, Since 1977, THON has raised more than \$180 million
13 to help provide emotional and financial support to the children,
14 families, researchers and staff of the Four Diamonds Fund; and

15 WHEREAS, The total fundraising amount of THON 2020 was
16 \$11,696,942.38; and

17 WHEREAS, THON has inspired similar events and organizations
18 across the United States, including at high schools and
19 institutions of higher education, and continues to encourage
20 students throughout the nation to volunteer and stay involved in
21 great charitable causes in their communities and with their
22 families; 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 15
29 through 21, 2021, as "THON Week" in Pennsylvania and honor the
30 work of The Pennsylvania State University IFC/Panhellenic Dance

1 Marathon student volunteers.