

THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF PENNSYLVANIA

SENATE RESOLUTION

No. 226 Session of 2022

INTRODUCED BY CORMAN, ARGALL, AUMENT, BARTOLOTTA, BOSCOLA, BROOKS, BROWNE, COSTA, DUSH, FONTANA, GORDNER, KANE, LANGERHOLC, MENSCH, PHILLIPS-HILL, PITTMAN, REGAN, ROBINSON, VOGEL, J. WARD AND STEFANO, FEBRUARY 11, 2022

REFERRED TO RULES AND EXECUTIVE NOMINATIONS, FEBRUARY 11, 2022

A RESOLUTION

1 Designating the week of February 14 through 20, 2022, 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 2022 "Spark Endless Light," celebrates a
12 yearlong fundraising and awareness campaign, sustained by more
13 than 16,500 student volunteers who donate more than 5 million
14 hours 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 \$190 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 2021, which
16 took place using a virtual format, was \$10,638,078.62; 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 4,800 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 14
29 through 20, 2022, as "THON Week" in Pennsylvania and honor the
30 work of The Pennsylvania State University IFC/Panhellenic Dance

1 Marathon student volunteers.