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THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF PENNSYLVANIA

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HOUSE RESOLUTION

No. 328 Session of  
2024

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INTRODUCED BY BENNINGHOFF, CONKLIN, MARCELL, TAKAC, BERNSTINE,  
CAUSER, FEE, FLICK, HILL-EVANS, KINSEY, MARSHALL, NEILSON,  
PICKETT, SAMUELSON, SANCHEZ, SCHEUREN, STEHR, VITALI, CEPEDA-  
FREYTIZ, JOZWIAK AND HEFFLEY, FEBRUARY 27, 2024

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REFERRED TO COMMITTEE ON EDUCATION, FEBRUARY 27, 2024

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A RESOLUTION

1 Designating March 19, 2024, as "The Pennsylvania State  
2 University IFC/Panhellenic Dance Marathon (THON) Day" in  
3 Pennsylvania and congratulating THON for raising nearly \$17  
4 million for the Four Diamonds Fund at Penn State Hershey  
5 Children's Hospital to help fight pediatric cancer.

6 WHEREAS, THON is the commonly referred-to name for The  
7 Pennsylvania State University IFC/Panhellenic Dance Marathon,  
8 the largest student-run philanthropy event in the world; and

9 WHEREAS, THON is a yearlong fundraising and awareness  
10 campaign to fight pediatric cancer, sustained by more than  
11 16,500 volunteers who donate more than 5 million hours of their  
12 own time, that culminates in a 46-hour dance marathon in which  
13 dancers are required to be continuously moving and not allowed  
14 to sit or sleep; and

15 WHEREAS, In 1977, THON partnered with the Four Diamonds Fund  
16 at Penn State Hershey Children's Hospital and chose Four  
17 Diamonds as the sole beneficiary of THON's fundraising efforts;  
18 and

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

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

9       WHEREAS, Since 1977, THON has raised more than \$200 million  
10 to help provide emotional and financial support to the children,  
11 families, researchers and staff of the Four Diamonds Fund; and

12       WHEREAS, THON 2024 took place February 16 through 18, 2024,  
13 at the Bryce Jordan Center at The Pennsylvania State University;  
14 and

15       WHEREAS, THON 2024, Treasure Every Adventure, revealed its  
16 total fundraising amount of \$16,955,683.63, breaking THON's  
17 yearly record for the third consecutive year; 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 House of Representatives designate March  
29 19, 2024, as "The Pennsylvania State University IFC/Panhellenic  
30 Dance Marathon (THON) Day" in Pennsylvania and congratulate THON

1 on its continued success in support of the Four Diamonds Fund at  
2 Penn State Hershey Children's Hospital; and be it further  
3       RESOLVED, That the House of Representatives commend The  
4 Pennsylvania State University students, volunteers and  
5 supporting organizations for their hard work in putting THON  
6 together.