

THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF PENNSYLVANIA

HOUSE RESOLUTION

No. 435 Session of 2024

INTRODUCED BY SAPPEY, KINSEY, HILL-EVANS, SCHLOSSBERG, T. DAVIS, OTTEN, HOWARD, SANCHEZ, BOROWSKI, OBERLANDER, FLEMING, VENKAT AND GAYDOS, MAY 20, 2024

REFERRED TO COMMITTEE ON TOURISM AND ECONOMIC AND RECREATIONAL DEVELOPMENT, MAY 20, 2024

A RESOLUTION

1 Recognizing the days of May 10 through 19, 2024, as "Go Public
2 Gardens Days" in Pennsylvania.

3 WHEREAS, "Go Public Gardens Days" is an ongoing, evergreen
4 initiative led by the American Public Gardens Association and
5 supported by its partnership with the United States Department
6 of Agriculture Forest Service to drive the public to visit,
7 value and volunteer at public gardens in their area and when
8 they travel; and

9 WHEREAS, The campaign brings a special focus from the Friday
10 before to the Sunday after Mother's Day; and

11 WHEREAS, The greater Philadelphia area is known as "America's
12 Garden Capital" and is home to more than 30 public gardens,
13 arboreta and historic landscapes; and

14 WHEREAS, Public gardens play a key role in two of this
15 Commonwealth's leading industries: agriculture and tourism; and

16 WHEREAS, Public gardens support more than 2,000 full-time
17 employees in this Commonwealth, drive more than \$500 million

1 into this Commonwealth's economy and support \$164 million in
2 combined operating budgets; and

3 WHEREAS, Public gardens in this Commonwealth welcome a
4 diverse visitor base of 4.2 million people annually, on par with
5 many professional sports leagues; and

6 WHEREAS, An estimated one-third of all visitors are from
7 outside of this Commonwealth, bringing millions of dollars in
8 visitor spending to this Commonwealth's communities and
9 supporting our economy; and

10 WHEREAS, Public gardens and public horticulture institutions
11 are vital to feeding humanity; and

12 WHEREAS, Public gardens bring together a variety of
13 expertise, approaches and solutions that are essential for
14 biodiversity in food and agriculture; and

15 WHEREAS, Public gardens and public horticulture institutions
16 preserve thousands of acres of natural resources through
17 conservation, restored forests, improved watersheds and healthy
18 private working lands; therefore be it

19 RESOLVED, That the House of Representatives recognize the
20 days of May 10 through 19, 2024, as "Go Public Gardens Days" in
21 Pennsylvania.