
THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF PENNSYLVANIA

HOUSE RESOLUTION

No. 530 Session of 2024

INTRODUCED BY BURGOS, GUZMAN, SANCHEZ, HILL-EVANS, SAMUELSON, HOHENSTEIN, BENHAM, WEBSTER, MADSEN, HANBIDGE, FREEMAN, GIRAL, McNEILL, SAPPEY, PROBST, SOLOMON, VITALI, BELLMON, CEPEDA-FREYTIZ, SCHLOSSBERG, PIELLI, VENKAT, GUENST, PASHINSKI, DONAHUE, MENTZER, BOYD, GALLAGHER, CERRATO, GREEN AND CIRESI, SEPTEMBER 19, 2024

REFERRED TO COMMITTEE ON STATE GOVERNMENT, SEPTEMBER 19, 2024

A RESOLUTION

1 Recognizing September 15 through October 15, 2024, as "Hispanic
2 Heritage Month" in Pennsylvania.

3 WHEREAS, "Hispanic Heritage Month" is recognized every year
4 in the United States in celebration and honor of the cultures
5 and contributions of Americans who trace their roots back to
6 Spain, Mexico, Central America, South America and Spanish-
7 speaking Caribbean nations; and

8 WHEREAS, This monthlong celebration pays tribute to the
9 generations of Hispanic and Latino Americans who have had a
10 positive and enriching influence on our nation and society; and

11 WHEREAS, "Hispanic Heritage Month" celebrates esteemed
12 trailblazers in labor and civil rights, professional sports,
13 aeronautics, the judiciary and more; and

14 WHEREAS, The celebration originated as "Hispanic Heritage
15 Week" from congressional legislation recognizing the role
16 Hispanic communities played throughout American history; and

1 WHEREAS, This effort eventually led Congress to pass a law
2 that allowed the President of the United States to issue a
3 proclamation for the first "Hispanic Heritage Week" in September
4 1968; and

5 WHEREAS, "Hispanic Heritage Week" was expanded to a monthlong
6 celebration when Congress successfully passed a bill that
7 allowed for a presidential declaration of the first "Hispanic
8 Heritage Month" from September 15 through October 15, 1989; and

9 WHEREAS, "Hispanic Heritage Month" coincides with the
10 anniversary of independence for Costa Rica, El Salvador,
11 Guatemala, Honduras and Nicaragua on September 15; the
12 anniversary of independence for Mexico on September 16; the
13 anniversary of independence for Chile on September 18; and Día
14 de la Raza, which is celebrated on October 12; and

15 WHEREAS, The United States Census Bureau estimates that the
16 United States Hispanic population grew to 65 million, or almost
17 one-fifth of the United States population, making the Hispanic
18 population the second largest group in the nation between 2022
19 and 2023; and

20 WHEREAS, Hispanic and Latino Americans have faithfully served
21 in the United States military throughout the nation's history,
22 currently making up more than 18% of the active-duty population;
23 and

24 WHEREAS, More than 1.04 million Hispanic and Latino
25 individuals call Pennsylvania home, serving as an integral part
26 of the cultural diversity of this Commonwealth by sharing their
27 music, food, art, dance and other aspects of their rich
28 traditions and serving a significant role within the
29 Pennsylvania economy as business owners, public servants and
30 essential workers; and

1 WHEREAS, "Hispanic Heritage Month" has long been an important
2 opportunity to celebrate and honor communities of Hispanic
3 origin, recognizing that these communities bring significant
4 value to this Commonwealth; and

5 WHEREAS, These communities serve as fine examples of how all
6 citizens might live out the values of this Commonwealth through
7 service, faith and a desire to achieve the American dream;
8 therefore be it

9 RESOLVED, That the House of Representatives recognize
10 September 15 through October 15, 2024, as "Hispanic Heritage
11 Month" in Pennsylvania; and be it further

12 RESOLVED, That the House of Representatives call on every
13 Pennsylvanian to honor the culture and history represented
14 within Hispanic communities through robust learning, service and
15 celebration, recognizing the positive impact these communities
16 have on the Commonwealth and the nation.