
THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF PENNSYLVANIA

SENATE RESOLUTION

No. 119 Session of
2023

INTRODUCED BY MARTIN, BREWSTER, PHILLIPS-HILL, VOGEL, DUSH,
LAUGHLIN, SCHWANK AND BROWN, MAY 31, 2023

REFERRED TO RULES AND EXECUTIVE NOMINATIONS, MAY 31, 2023

A RESOLUTION

1 Designating May 17, 2023, as "Pennsylvania Girls' Wrestling Day"
2 in Pennsylvania.

3 WHEREAS, Pennsylvania has a rich history of and unrivaled
4 passion for wrestling as a high school sport; and

5 WHEREAS, Girls' wrestling has been the fastest-growing high
6 school sport in the country over the past five years; and

7 WHEREAS, According to the nonprofit organization Wrestle Like
8 a Girl, Pennsylvania high school girls' wrestling increased
9 approximately 100% over the same five-year time period; and

10 WHEREAS, The number of female wrestlers in this Commonwealth
11 has grown from 229 in the 2019-2020 wrestling season to well
12 over 1,000 in the 2022-2023 wrestling season; and

13 WHEREAS, There are currently 32 states that have officially
14 sanctioned girls' wrestling; and

15 WHEREAS, Currently, the Pennsylvania Interscholastic Athletic
16 Association (PIAA) does not recognize girls' wrestling as an
17 official sport but has labeled it as an emerging sport; and

18 WHEREAS, The PIAA previously expressed that at least 100

1 girls' wrestling teams must organize before they can officially
2 sanction the sport and create a State championship for girls'
3 wrestling; and

4 WHEREAS, SanctionPA formed to help this Commonwealth's girl
5 wrestlers reach the PIAA 100-team marker; and

6 WHEREAS, SanctionPA is a grassroots effort by wrestling
7 leaders in this Commonwealth to work toward establishing girls'
8 wrestling as a sanctioned sport in Pennsylvania; and

9 WHEREAS, Wrestle Like A Girl, USA Wrestling, Pennsylvania USA
10 Wrestling, the Pennsylvania Wrestling Coaches Association, the
11 National Wrestling Coaches Association, the National High School
12 Coaches Association and the Pennsylvania Chapter of the National
13 Wrestling Hall of Fame have all participated as positive
14 collaborators in the grassroots effort; and

15 WHEREAS, The grassroots sanction movement achieved their
16 initial goal of 100 girls' wrestling programs to be approved by
17 their respective schools on February 14, 2023, with the addition
18 of Pennridge High School in Bucks County; and

19 WHEREAS, The first girls' wrestling program approved in this
20 Commonwealth occurred at J.P. McCaskey High School in Lancaster
21 County; and

22 WHEREAS, To date, there are 108 girls' wrestling programs
23 approved by their respective schools across this Commonwealth;
24 and

25 WHEREAS, The PIAA plans to hold the third and final vote on
26 the application to approve girls' wrestling as a PIAA sponsored
27 sport on May 17, 2023; and

28 WHEREAS, The Statewide champions of the likely final
29 unsanctioned girls' wrestling season included: Valarie Solorio
30 (Canonsburg), Jayleah Pletz (Shillington), Journie Rodriguez

1 (Lancaster), Sierra Chiesa (West Springfield), Aubre Krazer
2 (Easton), Jordyn Fouse (Roaring Spring), Haylie Jaffe (Kennett
3 Square), Zoey Haines (Orrtanna), Leyna Rumpler (Wexford), Gabby
4 Reid (Stroudsburg), Alyssa Favara (Johnstown), Caroline Hattala
5 (Quakertown) and Brenda Banks (Lansford); and

6 WHEREAS, Participation in wrestling on a high school level
7 leads to invaluable opportunities to compete and succeed at the
8 collegiate level and later on in life; therefore be it

9 RESOLVED, That the Senate designate May 17, 2023, as
10 "Pennsylvania Girls' Wrestling Day" in Pennsylvania; and be it
11 further

12 RESOLVED, That the Senate acknowledge the efforts of
13 SanctionPA to help establish girls' wrestling as a sanctioned
14 sport by the Pennsylvania Interscholastic Athletic Association.