
THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF PENNSYLVANIA

SENATE RESOLUTION

No. 214 Session of
2023

INTRODUCED BY HAYWOOD, BREWSTER, SAVAL, HUGHES, STREET, FONTANA,
TARTAGLIONE, KANE, CAPPELLETTI AND COMMITTA, DECEMBER 8, 2023

REFERRED TO RULES AND EXECUTIVE NOMINATIONS, DECEMBER 8, 2023

A RESOLUTION

1 Honoring freedom fighters in recognition of their vast and
2 valiant efforts to ensure the civil rights of individuals
3 across the globe.

4 WHEREAS, The protection of civil rights and civil liberties
5 is essential to the well-being of a free and democratic society;
6 and

7 WHEREAS, This Commonwealth has a diverse population whose
8 contributions to this Commonwealth are vital to its economy,
9 culture and civic character; and

10 WHEREAS, The dangerous rhetoric espoused by individuals and
11 groups who wish to threaten this diverse population pose a
12 particular threat to the civil rights and liberties of the
13 residents of our Commonwealth; and

14 WHEREAS, Throughout history, freedom fighters have worked to
15 protect individuals and groups from political repression and
16 discrimination by governments and private organizations; and

17 WHEREAS, These influential figures have sought to ensure the
18 ability of all members of society to participate in civil and

1 political life; and

2 WHEREAS, By engaging in resistance movements against
3 oppressive and illegitimate governments, freedom fighters have
4 promoted and implemented political freedom and the expansion of
5 personal civil liberties and rights; and

6 WHEREAS, Although the term "freedom fighter" is sometimes co-
7 opted to describe those engaged in terrorism or insurrection,
8 freedom fighters are better described as revolutionists and
9 abolitionists that overcome obstacles to freedom; and

10 WHEREAS, We must recognize the courage and tenacity of
11 freedom fighters such as LGBTQIA+ activists Frank Kameny and
12 Marsha P. Johnson, holocaust survivor and human rights champion
13 Elie Wiesel, anti-apartheid activist Desmond Tutu and Pakistani
14 education activist Malala Yousafzai; and

15 WHEREAS, It is more important now than ever before to learn
16 from the accomplishments and contributions of freedom fighters,
17 mirroring their efforts to overcome obstacles that continue to
18 prevent Pennsylvanians and citizens around the globe from
19 achieving true freedom; therefore be it

20 RESOLVED, That the Senate honor the freedom fighters that
21 have put their lives on the line to defend the dignity of
22 repressed entities worldwide.