

---

THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF PENNSYLVANIA

---

HOUSE RESOLUTION

No. 28 Session of  
2025

---

INTRODUCED BY MALAGARI, FREEMAN, KENYATTA, VENKAT, GIRAL, KHAN,  
SOLOMON, SANCHEZ, D. WILLIAMS, O'MARA, CERRATO AND GREEN,  
JANUARY 27, 2025

---

REFERRED TO COMMITTEE ON STATE GOVERNMENT, JANUARY 27, 2025

---

A RESOLUTION

1 Designating March 26, 2025, as "Bangladesh Day" in Pennsylvania.

2 WHEREAS, Bangladesh, a country of more than 167 million  
3 people, is a southern Asian country bordering the Bay of Bengal  
4 between Burma and India; and

5 WHEREAS, When British colonial rule in India ended in August  
6 1947, India was partitioned and two new countries were created,  
7 India and Pakistan; and

8 WHEREAS, Pakistan was separated into East and West Pakistan,  
9 with East Pakistan eventually becoming modern-day Bangladesh;  
10 and

11 WHEREAS, Pakistan's government began as a parliamentary  
12 democracy, with an elected constituent assembly tasked with  
13 drafting a constitution as well as overseeing the new country's  
14 legislative body; and

15 WHEREAS, Tensions between West Pakistan and Bengalis in East  
16 Pakistan continued to grow due to the refusal to accept Bengali  
17 as the state language of Pakistan, the economic disparities

1 between the two regions, West Pakistani hegemony and the  
2 declaration of martial law; and

3 WHEREAS, In 1956, Pakistan adopted a constitution where East  
4 and West Pakistan were both equally represented in government;  
5 and

6 WHEREAS, Bengalis were still discontented with the Pakistani  
7 government and, following a clash with India over control of  
8 territories in the Kashmir region, Sheikh Mujibur Rahman  
9 announced his six-point plan for East Pakistani independence in  
10 1965; and

11 WHEREAS, On March 25, 1971, government troops from West  
12 Pakistan invaded Dhaka despite negotiations between Yahya Khan,  
13 president of Pakistan and commander in chief of the armed  
14 forces, and Sheikh Mujibur Rahman occurring over the month of  
15 March; and

16 WHEREAS, On March 26, 1971, Sheikh Mujibur Rahman declared  
17 East Pakistan independence following his arrest and  
18 transportation to West Pakistan; and

19 WHEREAS, In the following nine months, the Bangladesh  
20 Liberation War claimed the lives of an estimated 300,000 to 3  
21 million people with 10 million Bengalis fleeing and becoming  
22 displaced within India; and

23 WHEREAS, India invaded both East and West Pakistan in defense  
24 of East Pakistani autonomy on December 3, 1971, and Pakistani  
25 defenses surrendering on December 16, 1971, ensured the official  
26 independence of what is now known as the People's Republic of  
27 Bangladesh; and

28 WHEREAS, The green and red colors of Bangladesh's national  
29 flag symbolize the country's flora and the sun rising over the  
30 new country; and

1       WHEREAS, There is a Bangladeshi community here in  
2 Pennsylvania, as the Bangladesh Association of Pennsylvania is  
3 located in Lansdale; and

4       WHEREAS, The Bangladesh Association of Pennsylvania is a  
5 nonprofit cultural organization that seeks to promote  
6 Bangladeshi social and cultural activities in Pennsylvania; and

7       WHEREAS, The Bangladesh Association of Pennsylvania also aims  
8 to develop increased cooperation and understanding with similar  
9 organizations of other ethnicities in Pennsylvania; therefore be  
10 it

11       RESOLVED, That the House of Representatives designate March  
12 26, 2025, as "Bangladesh Day" in Pennsylvania; and be it further

13       RESOLVED, That the House of Representatives recognize and  
14 foster the important contributions made by Bangladeshi  
15 Pennsylvanians to unify residents of this Commonwealth.