
THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF PENNSYLVANIA

HOUSE RESOLUTION

No. 298 Session of
2024

INTRODUCED BY MATZIE, SANCHEZ, GALLAGHER, HILL-EVANS, GREINER,
MALAGARI, KHAN, NEILSON, BOROWSKI, HARKINS, DALEY AND
HADDOCK, JANUARY 31, 2024

REFERRED TO COMMITTEE ON STATE GOVERNMENT, JANUARY 31, 2024

A RESOLUTION

1 Designating the week of March 10 through 16, 2024, as "Sunshine
2 Week" in Pennsylvania.

3 WHEREAS, The basic principles of freedom of speech and
4 freedom of the press guaranteed in the Constitution of the
5 United States are fundamental to our national heritage; and

6 WHEREAS, Since 2005, the American Society of News Editors and
7 the Pennsylvania NewsMedia Association and its members, which
8 include all of this Commonwealth's 82 daily newspapers, 124
9 nondaily and collegiate news publications and 13 online-only
10 news organizations annually observe "Sunshine Week" in mid-
11 March, coinciding with James Madison's birthday on March 16, as
12 a nonpartisan, nonprofit initiative to illustrate the importance
13 of open government and public access to government records and
14 meetings; and

15 WHEREAS, "Sunshine Week" participation by nonjournalism
16 groups is growing through national and local forums planned by
17 civic groups, libraries, open government and freedom of

1 information groups and student media; and

2 WHEREAS, "Sunshine Week" was established to spark a
3 discussion about the importance of open government and public
4 access to government documents and meetings; and

5 WHEREAS, These issues are important in this Commonwealth,
6 where public access issues regularly emerge; therefore be it

7 RESOLVED, That the House of Representatives designate the
8 week of March 10 through 16, 2024, as "Sunshine Week" in
9 Pennsylvania; and be it further

10 RESOLVED, That all residents of this Commonwealth be urged to
11 join in this observance of the basic principles of an open and
12 accessible government in a free society.