

THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF PENNSYLVANIA

HOUSE RESOLUTION

No. 429 Session of 2024

INTRODUCED BY STURLA, HILL-EVANS, BENNINGHOFF, CONKLIN, HARKINS, KHAN, GIRAL, HADDOCK, KINSEY, ROZZI, VITALI, MALAGARI, DONAHUE, MENTZER AND ZIMMERMAN, MAY 7, 2024

REFERRED TO COMMITTEE ON TOURISM AND ECONOMIC AND RECREATIONAL DEVELOPMENT, MAY 7, 2024

A RESOLUTION

1 Designating the week of June 2 through 8, 2024, as "Chesapeake  
2 Bay Awareness Week" in Pennsylvania.

3 WHEREAS, The Chesapeake Bay is the largest and most  
4 productive estuary in the United States, with its watershed  
5 spanning six states and the District of Columbia; and

6 WHEREAS, The Chesapeake Bay is fed by 50 major tributaries,  
7 the largest being the Susquehanna River, which provides 50% of  
8 the fresh water to the bay; and

9 WHEREAS, The Chesapeake Bay's tributaries in this  
10 Commonwealth are an important source of drinking water and  
11 recreational fishing and boating for this Commonwealth; and

12 WHEREAS, The Chesapeake Bay watershed covers 64,000 square  
13 miles, which encompasses half of this Commonwealth; and

14 WHEREAS, The Chesapeake Bay watershed is an extraordinary and  
15 vital natural resource, with some of the nation's most  
16 productive farm and forest lands in this Commonwealth's portion  
17 of the watershed; and

1       WHEREAS, The Chesapeake Bay supports 348 species of finfish,  
2 173 species of shellfish and more than 3,600 species of plant  
3 and animal life, including 2,700 types of plants and more than  
4 16 species of underwater grasses; and

5       WHEREAS, The Chesapeake Bay produces more than 500 million  
6 pounds of seafood harvest each year; and

7       WHEREAS, This productivity supported the settlement and  
8 growth of our nation and is a vital resource for future  
9 generations; and

10       WHEREAS, The Chesapeake Bay area is home to more than 18  
11 million people, many of whom rely upon the bay for their  
12 livelihood and recreational activities; and

13       WHEREAS, The rich history, pivotal economic importance and  
14 astounding beauty of the Chesapeake Bay watershed never cease to  
15 amaze residents and visitors alike; and

16       WHEREAS, The year 2024 begins the fifth decade of the  
17 Chesapeake Bay Program, a partnership between the Chesapeake Bay  
18 watershed, the Federal Government, states and the Chesapeake Bay  
19 Commission to coordinate science and policy across  
20 jurisdictions; and

21       WHEREAS, All residents of this Commonwealth are encouraged to  
22 commemorate "Chesapeake Bay Awareness Week" with events and  
23 educational programs designed to increase awareness of the  
24 importance of the Chesapeake Bay and its tributaries to this  
25 Commonwealth, the region and the United States; therefore be it

26       RESOLVED, That the House of Representatives designate the  
27 week of June 2 through 8, 2024, as "Chesapeake Bay Awareness  
28 Week" in Pennsylvania.