
THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF PENNSYLVANIA

HOUSE RESOLUTION

No. 526 Session of
2019

INTRODUCED BY MALAGARI, BIZZARRO, GREINER, NEILSON, BURNS,
KORTZ, HILL-EVANS, SCHMITT, MILLARD, T. DAVIS, ZABEL,
PICKETT, FIEDLER, CALTAGIRONE, HARKINS, WILLIAMS, MACKENZIE,
YOUNGBLOOD, DIGIROLAMO, McCLINTON, CIRESI, DeLUCA, FREEMAN,
READSHAW, HEFFLEY, WEBSTER, GILLEN, HENNESSEY, VITALI,
BOBACK, KINSEY, SCHLEGEL CULVER, LONGIETTI, HAHN, KIM AND
DRISCOLL, SEPTEMBER 26, 2019

REFERRED TO COMMITTEE ON TOURISM AND RECREATIONAL DEVELOPMENT,
SEPTEMBER 26, 2019

A RESOLUTION

1 Recognizing October 6, 2019, as "German-American Day" in
2 Pennsylvania.

3 WHEREAS, On October 6, 1683, 13 families, having sailed
4 earlier from the German City of Krefeld, established Germantown,
5 Pennsylvania, the first German settlement in America; and

6 WHEREAS, Germantown became the first American community to
7 formally protest the evils of slavery in 1688; and

8 WHEREAS, Between the 1680s and the American Revolution, the
9 majority of an estimated 100,000 German immigrants coming to
10 North America settled in Pennsylvania, comprising a third of
11 Philadelphia's population by the 1760s; and

12 WHEREAS, In the many years since, millions of German
13 immigrants have come to the United States and this Commonwealth
14 in pursuit of personal and religious freedoms and economic
15 opportunity; and

1 WHEREAS, Their descendants continue to shape the cultural
2 landscape of this Commonwealth, with more than 3.3 million
3 Pennsylvanians reporting German ancestry, making it the largest
4 ancestry group in this Commonwealth; and

5 WHEREAS, Established in 1764, the German Society of
6 Pennsylvania is the oldest German organization in the United
7 States and serves the State's German-American community; and

8 WHEREAS, The German Society of Pennsylvania, based in
9 Philadelphia, seeks to foster a better understanding between the
10 United States and Germany by advocating awareness of German
11 culture, traditions, and contributions to the history, culture,
12 economy, science and technology of the United States; and

13 WHEREAS, Today, Pennsylvania and the Federal Republic of
14 Germany enjoy a close relationship through our shared history
15 and common interests; and

16 WHEREAS, Germany is one of this Commonwealth's most important
17 trade partners, with \$1,471,734,818 in Pennsylvanian exports
18 going to Germany in 2017 and 39,500 workers employed by German-
19 based companies; and

20 WHEREAS, German-Americans are rightfully proud of how their
21 deep cultural, historical and familial ties have helped
22 strengthen this robust transatlantic relationship; and

23 WHEREAS, A presidential proclamation was signed on October 5,
24 2018, to designate October 6, 2018, as "German-American Day" to
25 celebrate the achievements and contributions of German-
26 Americans; therefore be it

27 RESOLVED, That the House of Representatives recognize October
28 6, 2019, as "German-American Day" in Pennsylvania; and be it
29 further

30 RESOLVED, That the House of Representatives honor the German

1 heritage of Pennsylvania; and be it further

2 RESOLVED, That the House of Representatives celebrate the
3 important relationship between the Commonwealth and the Federal
4 Republic of Germany.