
THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF PENNSYLVANIA

HOUSE RESOLUTION

No. 84 Session of
2023

INTRODUCED BY ISAACSON, MAKO, BOROWSKI, BRENNAN, BURGOS, CIRESI,
T. DAVIS, FREEMAN, HARKINS, HILL-EVANS, HOHENSTEIN, KUTZ,
M. MACKENZIE, MADDEN, MALAGARI, MARCELL, MATZIE, MUSTELLO,
SALISBURY, SANCHEZ, VITALI AND MARSHALL, APRIL 24, 2023

REFERRED TO COMMITTEE ON EDUCATION, APRIL 24, 2023

A RESOLUTION

1 Designating the month of April 2023 as "Community College Month"
2 in Pennsylvania in recognition of the important role that
3 community colleges play in the education system and economy
4 of this Commonwealth.

5 WHEREAS, Pennsylvania ranks 48th in the nation for the
6 affordability of higher education; and

7 WHEREAS, Community colleges play a critical role in providing
8 Pennsylvanians with an affordable and quality higher education;
9 and

10 WHEREAS, Community colleges are the largest provider of
11 higher education in this Commonwealth, serving more than 230,000
12 students; and

13 WHEREAS, Many of the students attending community colleges
14 are from low-income families; and

15 WHEREAS, Forty-two percent of community college students are
16 from underrepresented or minority groups; and

17 WHEREAS, Community colleges educate the largest percentage of
18 first-generation or nontraditional students in higher education;

1 and

2 WHEREAS, Community colleges can save students tens of
3 thousands of dollars on the completion of a four-year degree;

4 and

5 WHEREAS, The affordability of community college provides
6 students with access to higher education and enhanced economic
7 opportunities; and

8 WHEREAS, These economic opportunities, for some students,
9 come through the many career-focused degrees and programs
10 offered by community colleges; and

11 WHEREAS, Community colleges serve as the largest
12 postsecondary trainer in this Commonwealth providing work force
13 development programs and degrees; and

14 WHEREAS, Community colleges partner with 2,170 employers to
15 provide more than \$9 million in contracted workforce training to
16 87,000 individuals located throughout this Commonwealth; and

17 WHEREAS, These partnerships and programs provide employers
18 with highly qualified workers for high-demand occupations that
19 meet State and regional economic needs in this Commonwealth;

20 and

21 WHEREAS, Seventy-five percent of community college programs
22 are aligned with high-priority occupations as defined by the
23 Department of Labor and Industry, which includes nursing,
24 computer technicians and early childhood workers; and

25 WHEREAS, Community colleges through their noncredit programs
26 educate and train the Commonwealth's first responders, including
27 law enforcement officers, firefighters and emergency medical
28 service personnel; and

29 WHEREAS, Community colleges provide skill training for high-
30 demand occupations, including truck driving, nursing assistants,

1 machinists and mechanics; therefore be it

2 RESOLVED, That the House of Representatives designate the
3 month of April 2023 as "Community College Month" in Pennsylvania
4 in recognition of the important role that community colleges
5 play in the education system and economy of this Commonwealth.