

THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF PENNSYLVANIA

SENATE RESOLUTION

No. 104 Session of 2021

INTRODUCED BY BROOKS, STEFANO, BROWNE, KEARNEY, J. WARD,  
 BARTOLOTTA, ROBINSON, ARGALL, SANTARSIERO, PITTMAN, MARTIN,  
 FONTANA, BREWSTER, YUDICHAK, AUMENT, COSTA, KANE, MENSCH AND  
 MASTRIANO, MAY 4, 2021

REFERRED TO RULES AND EXECUTIVE NOMINATIONS, MAY 4, 2021

A RESOLUTION

1 Recognizing May 8, 2021, as the 76th anniversary of "Victory in  
 2 Europe Day" or "V-E Day" in Pennsylvania.

3 WHEREAS, By April 1945, the German Army was shattered; and

4 WHEREAS, On April 25, 1945, American and Soviet forces met at  
 5 the Elbe River, and five days later Adolf Hitler committed  
 6 suicide in his Berlin bunker; and

7 WHEREAS, Hitler's successor, Admiral Karl Doenitz, sent  
 8 General Alfred Jodl to the Supreme Headquarters Allied  
 9 Expeditionary Forces detachment in Reims, France, to seek terms  
 10 for an end to the war; and

11 WHEREAS, On May 7, 1945, at General Dwight Eisenhower's  
 12 headquarters in Reims, a representative of the German High  
 13 Command signed the document of surrender, unconditionally  
 14 surrendering all air, land and sea forces to the Allies on May  
 15 8, ending the war in Europe; and

16 WHEREAS, At 2:41 a.m. on May 7, 1945, General Jodl signed for  
 17 the unconditional surrender of German forces on all fronts,

1 effective the next day at 11:01 p.m.; and

2 WHEREAS, After six years and millions of lives lost, the Nazi  
3 scourge was crushed, war in Europe was finally over and war-  
4 weary soldiers and civilians could join in giving thanks; and

5 WHEREAS, On May 8, 1945, "Victory in Europe Day" was  
6 proclaimed and observed in Western Europe and Great Britain,  
7 where more than 1 million people gathered in London with the  
8 British Royal Family and Prime Minister Winston Churchill; and

9 WHEREAS, "Victory in Europe Day" observances were also held  
10 in Canada and the United States, where President Harry Truman  
11 celebrated his 61st birthday and dedicated the Allied victory to  
12 the memory of President Franklin D. Roosevelt, who had died on  
13 April 12; and

14 WHEREAS, On May 9, 1945, the Soviet Union marked the end of  
15 the war, known there as the Great Patriotic War; therefore be it

16 RESOLVED, That the Senate recognize May 8, 2021, as the 76th  
17 anniversary of "Victory in Europe Day" or "V-E Day" in  
18 Pennsylvania; and be it further

19 RESOLVED, That the Senate join with a grateful nation in  
20 expressing respect and appreciation to the men and women who  
21 served in the European theater during World War II and remember  
22 and pay tribute to those Americans who made the ultimate  
23 sacrifice, giving their life for their country.