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THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF PENNSYLVANIA

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SENATE RESOLUTION

No. 124 Session of  
2023

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INTRODUCED BY MARTIN, YAW, BOSCOLA, BREWSTER, CULVER, BROWN AND  
LAUGHLIN, MAY 31, 2023

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REFERRED TO RULES AND EXECUTIVE NOMINATIONS, MAY 31, 2023

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A RESOLUTION

1 Designating the week of June 4 through 10, 2023, 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

18 WHEREAS, The Chesapeake Bay supports 348 species of finfish,

1 173 species of shellfish and more than 3,600 species of plant  
2 and animal life, including 2,700 types of plants and more than  
3 16 species of underwater grasses; and

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

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

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

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

15 WHEREAS, The year 2023 marks the 40th anniversary of the  
16 Chesapeake Bay Program, a partnership between the Federal  
17 Government, states, the Chesapeake Bay watershed and the  
18 Chesapeake Bay Commission to coordinate science and policy  
19 across jurisdictions; and

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

25 RESOLVED, That the Senate designate the week of June 4  
26 through 10, 2023, as "Chesapeake Bay Awareness Week" in  
27 Pennsylvania.