
THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF PENNSYLVANIA

SENATE RESOLUTION

No. 13 Session of
2023

INTRODUCED BY STREET, HAYWOOD, FONTANA, BARTOLOTTA, CAPPELLETTI,
KEARNEY, BOSCOLA, KANE, COLLETT, MARTIN, STEFANO, DILLON,
COSTA, DUSH, J. WARD, SANTARSIERO, HUTCHINSON AND COMMITTA,
JANUARY 10, 2023

INTRODUCED AND ADOPTED, JANUARY 10, 2023

A RESOLUTION

1 Designating the week of January 15 through 22, 2023, as "Dr.
2 Martin Luther King, Jr., Holiday Week" in Pennsylvania.

3 WHEREAS, Martin Luther King, Jr., born January 15, 1929, in
4 Atlanta, Georgia, followed in his father's and grandfather's
5 footsteps by becoming a Baptist minister after graduation from
6 Morehouse College in 1948 and Crozer Theological Seminary in
7 1951; and

8 WHEREAS, Dr. King received his doctorate from Boston
9 University in 1955; and

10 WHEREAS, In 1954, as pastor of the Dexter Avenue Baptist
11 Church in Montgomery, Alabama, Dr. King organized a boycott of
12 the city's segregated busing system, which led to a United
13 States Supreme Court decision forcing desegregation of the
14 buses; and

15 WHEREAS, Throughout this and later civil rights protests, Dr.
16 King espoused the philosophy of nonviolent passive resistance
17 and civil disobedience; and

1 WHEREAS, In 1957, Dr. King moved back to Atlanta to join his
2 father as associate pastor of the Ebenezer Baptist Church and
3 organized the Southern Christian Leadership Conference to fight
4 segregation and discrimination throughout the South; and

5 WHEREAS, During the following years, Dr. King was frequently
6 arrested, beaten, jailed and threatened with violence as a
7 result of his protest activities; and

8 WHEREAS, Dr. King led a massive voter registration drive in
9 Selma, Alabama, resulting in the famous freedom march to
10 Montgomery, the state capital; and

11 WHEREAS, Dr. King's famous march on Washington, DC, in 1963
12 culminated in a great rally at the Lincoln Memorial where he
13 gave his immortal "I have a dream" speech; and

14 WHEREAS, Dr. King's efforts resulted in enactment of the
15 Federal Civil Rights Act of 1964; and

16 WHEREAS, Dr. King's personal sacrifices and determined
17 leadership of the civil rights movement in the United States
18 were formally recognized in 1964 when he received the Nobel
19 Peace Prize; and

20 WHEREAS, Dr. King was assassinated in 1968 while in Memphis,
21 Tennessee, to organize a Poor People's Campaign; and

22 WHEREAS, The third Monday of January has been designated as a
23 national holiday in order to give all Americans an opportunity
24 to reflect upon the profound impact Dr. King has had on life in
25 the United States; therefore be it

26 RESOLVED, That the Senate designate the week of January 15
27 through 22, 2023, as "Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr., Holiday Week"
28 in Pennsylvania; and be it further

29 RESOLVED, That the Senate urge all Pennsylvanians to be
30 mindful of the spirit and work of Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr.,

1 and to remember his commitment to peace and his dedication to
2 equality for all human beings on the designated week of his
3 remembrance and throughout the year.