
THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF PENNSYLVANIA

SENATE RESOLUTION

No. 158 Session of
2019

INTRODUCED BY HAYWOOD, FARNESE, FONTANA, DiSANTO, GORDNER,
HUGHES, COSTA AND SCHWANK, JUNE 10, 2019

INTRODUCED AND ADOPTED, JUNE 10, 2019

A RESOLUTION

1 Recognizing the historical importance of the 15th Amendment to
2 the Constitution of the United States and encouraging the
3 establishment of a monument upon the grounds of the
4 Pennsylvania State Capitol Complex.

5 WHEREAS, The 15th Amendment to the Constitution of the United
6 States prohibits the Federal Government and each state from
7 denying a citizen the right to vote based on that citizen's
8 "race, color, or previous condition of servitude"; and

9 WHEREAS, The 15th Amendment was ratified on February 3, 1870,
10 and the 150th anniversary of that ratification is being
11 celebrated in 2020; and

12 WHEREAS, The Historic 8th Ward of Harrisburg, where the
13 Pennsylvania State Capitol Complex currently is located, was a
14 major site during the process of ratification of the 15th
15 Amendment by the Commonwealth; and

16 WHEREAS, The General Assembly recognizes and celebrates that
17 the right of citizens of the United States to vote shall not be
18 denied or abridged by the United States or by any state on
19 account of race, color or previous condition of servitude;

1 therefore be it

2 RESOLVED, That the Senate recognize the historical importance
3 of the 15th Amendment to the Constitution of the United States
4 and encourage the establishment of a monument upon the grounds
5 of the Pennsylvania State Capitol Complex; and be it further

6 RESOLVED, That the Senate encourage private funding for the
7 design and construction of the monument, with the final design
8 approval of the Department of General Services; and be it
9 further

10 RESOLVED, That the Senate request that the Department of
11 General Services accept ownership of the monument while allowing
12 the installation and upkeep of the monument through private
13 funds as not to burden the Commonwealth generally or the
14 Department of General Services specifically; and be it further

15 RESOLVED, That the Senate urge the monument being located on
16 the lawn of the Speaker K. Leroy Irvis Office Building within
17 the Pennsylvania State Capitol Complex, the former site of
18 Harrisburg's 8th Ward; and be it further

19 RESOLVED, That the Senate recommend the installation and
20 upkeep of the monument through private funds as not to burden
21 the Commonwealth; and be it further

22 RESOLVED, That copies of this resolution be transmitted to
23 the Governor and the Secretary of General Services to confirm
24 the endorsement of this monument by the Senate.