

THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF PENNSYLVANIA

SENATE RESOLUTION

No. 312 Session of 2024

INTRODUCED BY FARRY, SANTARSIERO, COLLETT, MARTIN, COSTA AND PENNYCUICK, JUNE 30, 2024

REFERRED TO RULES AND EXECUTIVE NOMINATIONS, JUNE 30, 2024

A RESOLUTION

1 Designating August 4, 2024, as "BAPS Day" in Pennsylvania.

2 WHEREAS, BAPS Swaminarayan Sanstha ("BAPS") is a worldwide  
3 Hindu denomination dedicated to fostering faith, inspiring  
4 service and promoting better living; and

5 WHEREAS, His Holiness Pramukh Swami Maharaj, (1921-2016),  
6 established the first BAPS Hindu mandir in the United States on  
7 August 4, 1974, in New York City; and

8 WHEREAS, The year 2024 marks 50 years of service and faith in  
9 the United States for BAPS; and

10 WHEREAS, Over the past 50 years, BAPS has grown to more than  
11 100 mandirs across the United States; and

12 WHEREAS, These mandirs offer a welcoming and spiritual space  
13 for thousands of families, as well as worship, fellowship,  
14 communal meals, education and activities for young and old,  
15 creating a true home for the faithful; and

16 WHEREAS, BAPS mandirs offer youth activities that encourage  
17 and mold young people to live lives of integrity and character

1 that reflect our highest ideals; and

2 WHEREAS, BAPS mandirs bring His Holiness Pramukh Swami  
3 Maharaj's words, "In the joy of others lies our own," of life  
4 through support for those in need, through a variety of  
5 community efforts such as health fairs, food drives or disaster  
6 relief work; and

7 WHEREAS, Following in the example of His Holiness Mahant  
8 Swami Maharaj, the volunteers of BAPS have, time and again,  
9 answered the call to serve humbly, selflessly and  
10 inspirationally; and

11 WHEREAS, BAPS mandirs have a storied history of helping  
12 immigrants to the United States retain their connection to their  
13 faith but fully embrace and join in American civic life; and

14 WHEREAS, BAPS mandirs add to the rich tapestry of diversity  
15 that makes America and Pennsylvania a beautiful place to call  
16 home; and

17 WHEREAS, The BAPS mandirs in Pennsylvania are proud examples  
18 of how houses of worship contribute to the well-being of their  
19 congregants and local communities; and

20 WHEREAS, The BAPS mandirs in Pennsylvania hope to serve their  
21 congregants and the local community with even greater zeal in  
22 the next 50 years and beyond; therefore be it

23 RESOLVED, That the Senate designate August 4, 2024, as "BAPS  
24 Day" in Pennsylvania; and be it further

25 RESOLVED, That the Senate recognize the commitment of BAPS  
26 Swaminarayan Sanstha in Pennsylvania.