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THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF PENNSYLVANIA

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SENATE RESOLUTION

No. 321 Session of  
2022

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INTRODUCED BY MASTRIANO, ARGALL, ROBINSON, BROWNE, SCAVELLO,  
PHILLIPS-HILL, MENSCH AND PITTMAN, JUNE 30, 2022

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REFERRED TO RULES AND EXECUTIVE NOMINATIONS, JUNE 30, 2022

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A RESOLUTION

1 Recognizing the month of June 2022 as "Lithuanian Partnership  
2 Month" in Pennsylvania.

3 WHEREAS, In June 2022, the Commonwealth is marking the 29th  
4 anniversary of an excellent partnership between the Pennsylvania  
5 National Guard and Lithuanian Armed Forces; and

6 WHEREAS, The Pennsylvania National Guard and Lithuanian Armed  
7 Forces affiliation is one of 22 European partnerships comprising  
8 the United States European Command State Partnership Program;  
9 and

10 WHEREAS, The partnership is one of 65 worldwide  
11 collaborations that constitute the National Guard State  
12 Partnership Program; and

13 WHEREAS, The partnership was established April 27, 1993, and  
14 Pennsylvania's brave men and women continue to serve in  
15 Lithuania; and

16 WHEREAS, There is a significant Baltic population in  
17 Pennsylvania, including individuals of Estonian, Latvian and  
18 Lithuanian descent; and

1       WHEREAS, The United States and Lithuania are North Atlantic  
2 Treaty Organization allies; and

3       WHEREAS, The partnership was borne out of the fall of the  
4 Soviet Union in 1991; and

5       WHEREAS, On June 14, a "Day of Mourning and Hope" was  
6 observed in Lithuania, marking the deportation of 30,000  
7 Lithuanians by the Soviet Union to Siberia; and

8       WHEREAS, The deportations were part of 35 mass expulsions  
9 carried out in 1941, and from 1945 through 1952; and

10       WHEREAS, About 300,000 people were deported in total, with  
11 70% representing women and children; and

12       WHEREAS, Due to cold and difficult conditions, as well as  
13 starvation, plagues and psychological abuse, many Lithuanians  
14 died during the deportation; and

15       WHEREAS, The atrocities led to a decade-long armed resistance  
16 against the Soviet Union in the Baltics and, ultimately, the  
17 vindication of our Lithuanian friends; and

18       WHEREAS, The Commonwealth values its friendship, partnership  
19 and bond with Lithuania; and

20       WHEREAS, As Pennsylvanians, we stand in solidarity with our  
21 friends and allies in Estonia, Latvia and especially Lithuania  
22 due to its deep and long relationship with the Commonwealth;  
23 therefore be it

24       RESOLVED, That the Senate recognize the month of June 2022 as  
25 "Lithuanian Partnership Month" in Pennsylvania.