
THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF PENNSYLVANIA

SENATE RESOLUTION

No. 36 Session of
2023

INTRODUCED BY SANTARSIERO, CAPPELLETTI, FONTANA, KEARNEY,
DILLON, HAYWOOD, HUGHES, SCHWANK, COMMITTA, COSTA, COLLETT AND
BREWSTER, FEBRUARY 21, 2023

REFERRED TO RULES AND EXECUTIVE NOMINATIONS, FEBRUARY 21, 2023

A RESOLUTION

1 Recognizing February 15, 2023, as "Love is Love Day" in
2 Pennsylvania.

3 WHEREAS, Each year, on February 14, Valentine's Day is
4 celebrated and receives a great deal of media attention with
5 couples and loved ones proclaiming their love for each other;
6 and

7 WHEREAS, Individuals who identify as lesbian, gay, bisexual,
8 transgender, queer or questioning, asexual and other sexual
9 minorities (LGBTQ+) are often excluded from mainstream media
10 coverage of Valentine's Day; and

11 WHEREAS, Being an adolescent during a time when those around
12 you are expressing their love for each other can be
13 overwhelming, especially if you do not see examples you can
14 identify with; and

15 WHEREAS, Twenty-six percent of LGBTQ+ youths say that the
16 biggest problems are not being accepted by family, trouble at
17 school and fear of being out or open; and

1 WHEREAS, Consequently, it is crucial for residents of this
2 Commonwealth to offer love to LGBTQ+ youths and become allies;
3 and

4 WHEREAS, The manner in which parents and guardians engage
5 with LGBTQ+ youths can have a tremendous impact on current and
6 future mental and physical health; and

7 WHEREAS, LGBTQ+ students describe how hearing slurs, lacking
8 resources relevant to their experience, being discouraged from
9 having same-sex relationships and being regularly misgendered
10 have made school a hostile environment; and

11 WHEREAS, LGBTQ+ students describe persistent patterns of
12 isolation, exclusion and marginalization that make them feel
13 unsafe or unwelcome at school; and

14 WHEREAS, Supporting and accepting LGBTQ+ youths, especially
15 during a time when love is being celebrated, can often help
16 these youths better deal with life challenges and how they are
17 feeling; and

18 WHEREAS, In order to continue to promote the health and
19 safety of LGBTQ+ youths, schools and programs where youths spend
20 most of their time should advance the message of respecting
21 those different from you and prohibit bullying, harassment and
22 violence against those who identify as LGBTQ+; and

23 WHEREAS, Approximately 73% of LGBTQ+ youths say that they are
24 more honest about themselves online than in the real world,
25 making it urgent that more communities in this Commonwealth
26 offer support to LGBTQ+ youths; and

27 WHEREAS, Encouraging families and allies to facilitate access
28 to community-based providers who have experience providing
29 health services, including medical testing and counseling and
30 social and psychological services to LGBTQ+ youths, is extremely

1 beneficial; and

2 WHEREAS, Accepting LGBTQ+ youths in our communities and in
3 society at large helps remind those we care about that love is
4 love regardless of how a person identifies; therefore be it

5 RESOLVED, That the Senate recognize February 15, 2023, as
6 "Love is Love Day" in Pennsylvania.