
THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF PENNSYLVANIA

SENATE RESOLUTION

No. 81 Session of
2013

INTRODUCED BY KASUNIC, WARD, COSTA, FONTANA, FERLO, TARTAGLIONE,
ERICKSON, PILEGGI, WASHINGTON, TEPLITZ, FARNESE, DINNIMAN,
VULAKOVICH, RAFFERTY, WOZNIAK, YAW, SMITH, HUGHES, BRUBAKER,
BREWSTER, SCHWANK, WHITE, YUDICHAK, SOLOBAY, BLAKE, BOSCOLA,
KITCHEN, LEACH, STACK, WILEY AND WILLIAMS, APRIL 9, 2013

INTRODUCED AND ADOPTED, APRIL 9, 2013

A RESOLUTION

1 Commemorating the 100th anniversary of the founding of the Order
2 Sons of Italy in America, Grand Lodge Pennsylvania, and
3 congratulating it on its dedication to the preservation of
4 the Italian culture, tradition, history and heritage.

5 WHEREAS, The Order Sons of Italy in America (OSIA) is the
6 largest and oldest national organization of men and women who
7 represent the estimated 26 million Americans of Italian
8 heritage; and

9 WHEREAS, The missions of OSIA include:

10 (1) encouraging the study of Italian language and
11 culture in American schools and universities;

12 (2) preserving Italian-American traditions, culture,
13 history and heritage; and

14 (3) promoting closer cultural relations between the
15 United States and Italy

16 ; and

17 WHEREAS, During its early years, the OSIA established free

1 schools to teach immigrants English and centers to help them
2 become citizens of the United States; and

3 WHEREAS, The first lodges of the order established
4 orphanages, homes for the elderly, life insurance and mortuary
5 funds, credit unions, welfare societies and scholarship funds to
6 aid members in need; and

7 WHEREAS, The OSIA maintains 19 grand lodges nationally that
8 are governed by a Grand Council elected by the state or regional
9 membership; and

10 WHEREAS, On April 27, 1913, the Grand Lodge of Pennsylvania
11 was the third State Lodge chartered by OSIA; and

12 WHEREAS, The Grand Lodge of Pennsylvania eventually grew to
13 become the largest State Lodge with more than 470 local lodges
14 and 50 junior lodges; and

15 WHEREAS, The Grand Lodge of Pennsylvania has more than 120
16 OSIA lodges throughout this Commonwealth today that meet
17 regularly for social and community-oriented activities; and

18 WHEREAS, The OSIA working with its Grand Lodges established
19 the Sons of Italy Foundation, a private, philanthropic
20 institution established in 1959 which to date has donated nearly
21 \$117,000,000 to scholarships, medical research, cultural
22 preservation, disaster relief and other causes; therefore be it

23 RESOLVED, That the Senate commemorate the 100th anniversary
24 of the founding of the Order Sons of Italy in America, Grand
25 Lodge Pennsylvania, and congratulate it on its dedication to the
26 preservation of the Italian culture, tradition, history and
27 heritage.