THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF PENNSYLVANIA

HOUSE RESOLUTION

No. 329

Session of 2024

INTRODUCED BY NEILSON, KHAN, GIRAL, HARKINS, STAATS, KAUFFMAN, KINSEY, MERSKI, JAMES, MARCELL, GALLAGHER, CAUSER, JOZWIAK, GUENST, PICKETT, MALAGARI, SANCHEZ, HILL-EVANS, CONKLIN, HADDOCK, DAVANZO AND ZIMMERMAN, FEBRUARY 27, 2024

REFERRED TO COMMITTEE ON EDUCATION, FEBRUARY 27, 2024

A RESOLUTION

- 1 Recognizing the week of January 28 through February 3, 2024, as 2 "Catholic Schools Week" in Pennsylvania.
- 3 WHEREAS, Since 1974, "Catholic Schools Week" is a nationally
- 4 recognized annual celebration of Catholic education in the
- 5 United States beginning on the last Sunday of January; and
- 6 WHEREAS, For its 50th year, the theme of "Catholic Schools
- 7 Week" is "Catholic Schools: United in Faith and Community"; and
- 8 WHEREAS, This celebration provides schools with an
- 9 opportunity to demonstrate the value that Catholic education can
- 10 provide to young people, to demonstrate the contributions of
- 11 Catholic education to the church and local community and to
- 12 showcase their students' success in academics, leadership,
- 13 volunteerism, the arts and athletics; and
- 14 WHEREAS, Catholic schools throughout the nation celebrate the
- 15 week with Masses and open houses and by hosting activities and
- 16 events for students, families, parishioners and community
- 17 members; and

- 1 WHEREAS, School events often include:
- 2 (1) recognition of first responders, military personnel,
- 3 community leaders, bus drivers, teachers and volunteers;
- 4 (2) lunches with parents or grandparents;
- 5 (3) volunteer efforts at local food banks; and
- 6 (4) assemblies or games to promote school spirit;
- 7 and
- 8 WHEREAS, Catholic schools provide a balanced academic
- 9 curriculum that combines Catholic faith, culture and life while
- 10 instilling in students the value of service to others in order
- 11 to prepare students to be productive citizens and future
- 12 leaders; and
- 13 WHEREAS, With a national high school graduation rate of 99%,
- 14 Catholic schools pride themselves on setting high standards for
- 15 student achievement and providing the help that students need to
- 16 succeed academically; and
- 17 WHEREAS, Through the administration of the Allentown,
- 18 Altoona-Johnstown, Erie, Greensburg, Harrisburg, Pittsburgh and
- 19 Scranton Dioceses and the Archdiocese of Philadelphia, this
- 20 Commonwealth is home to approximately 365 Catholic schools,
- 21 including early childhood education centers and preschools,
- 22 elementary schools, junior high schools, high schools and
- 23 special education schools; therefore be it
- 24 RESOLVED, That the House of Representatives recognize the
- 25 week of January 28 through February 3, 2024, as "Catholic
- 26 Schools Week" in Pennsylvania.