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THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF PENNSYLVANIA

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SENATE RESOLUTION

No. 224 Session of  
2024

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INTRODUCED BY LANGERHOLC, DUSH, MARTIN, PITTMAN, AUMENT,  
PHILLIPS-HILL, BARTOLOTTA, ROBINSON, REGAN, LAUGHLIN,  
SCHWANK, TARTAGLIONE, BROOKS, ROTHMAN, BOSCOLA, HAYWOOD,  
SANTARSIERO, COSTA, FARRY, BROWN, J. WARD, CAPPELLETTI,  
STEFANO, DILLON, KANE, COMMITTA AND ARGALL, FEBRUARY 12, 2024

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REFERRED TO RULES AND EXECUTIVE NOMINATIONS, FEBRUARY 12, 2024

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A RESOLUTION

1 Designating the week of February 12 through 18, 2024, as "THON  
2 Week" in Pennsylvania and honoring the work of The  
3 Pennsylvania State University IFC/Panhellenic Dance Marathon  
4 student volunteers.

5 WHEREAS, THON is the commonly referred to name for The  
6 Pennsylvania State University IFC/Panhellenic Dance Marathon,  
7 the largest student-run philanthropy event in the world; and

8 WHEREAS, THON's mission is to provide emotional and financial  
9 support, spread awareness and ensure funding for critical  
10 research in pursuit of a cure for pediatric cancer; and

11 WHEREAS, THON 2024 "Treasure Every Adventure" celebrates a  
12 yearlong fundraising and awareness campaign, sustained by more  
13 than 16,500 student volunteers who donate more than 5 million  
14 hours of their own time; and

15 WHEREAS, THON culminates in a 46-hour dance marathon in which  
16 dancers are required to be continuously moving and not allowed  
17 to sit or sleep; and

1       WHEREAS, In 1977, THON partnered with the Four Diamonds Fund  
2 at Penn State Hershey Children's Hospital and chose Four  
3 Diamonds as the sole beneficiary of THON's fundraising efforts;  
4 and

5       WHEREAS, Four Diamonds offsets the cost of treatment that  
6 insurance does not cover, including medical and emotional  
7 support to ensure that all of a child's needs are met, and  
8 supports the medical team that cares for the children; and

9       WHEREAS, Four Diamonds funds pediatric cancer research  
10 through start-up grants and the Four Diamonds Pediatric Cancer  
11 Research Center and cares directly for 500 children with cancer,  
12 100 of which are children who have been newly diagnosed; and

13       WHEREAS, Since 1977, THON has raised more than \$219 million  
14 to help provide emotional and financial support to the children,  
15 families, researchers and staff of the Four Diamonds Fund; and

16       WHEREAS, The total fundraising amount of THON 2023 was  
17 \$15,006,132.46; and

18       WHEREAS, THON has inspired similar events and organizations  
19 across the United States, including at high schools and  
20 institutions of higher education, and continues to encourage  
21 students throughout the nation to volunteer and stay involved in  
22 great charitable causes in their communities and with their  
23 families; and

24       WHEREAS, Since its introduction, THON has supported more than  
25 4,800 children and families with childhood cancer and to this  
26 day continues to enable research and improve treatments, cures  
27 and benefits to ensure the cure of children with cancer around  
28 the world; therefore be it

29       RESOLVED, That the Senate designate the week of February 12  
30 through 18, 2024, as "THON Week" in Pennsylvania and honor the

- 1 work of The Pennsylvania State University IFC/Panhellenic Dance
- 2 Marathon student volunteers.