

THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF PENNSYLVANIA

HOUSE RESOLUTION

No. 27 Session of
2023

INTRODUCED BY STRUZZI, ARMANINI, GILLEN, GREINER, GUENST, JAMES,
KHAN, PICKETT, RAPP, SANCHEZ, SCHMITT, SMITH AND WEBSTER,
MARCH 10, 2023

REFERRED TO COMMITTEE ON TOURISM AND ECONOMIC AND RECREATIONAL
DEVELOPMENT, MARCH 10, 2023

A RESOLUTION

Designating May 20, 2023, as "Jimmy Stewart Day" in
Pennsylvania.

WHEREAS, Jimmy Stewart was one of Hollywood's most respected
and admired stars during his nearly 50-year-long movie career;
and

WHEREAS, Jimmy Stewart was born May 20, 1908, in Indiana,
Pennsylvania; and

WHEREAS, Jimmy Stewart attended high school at Mercersburg
Academy, in Mercersburg, Pennsylvania, where he played football
and was a member of the glee club and the drama club; and

WHEREAS, Jimmy Stewart entered Princeton University in 1928,
graduating with a degree in architecture; and

WHEREAS, After graduating from Princeton University, Jimmy
Stewart joined the University Players, a theater group in West
Falmouth, Massachusetts; and

WHEREAS, Jimmy Stewart often played a man of modest means,
with moral resolve, striving to overcome his position in life to

reach his dreams; and

WHEREAS, Jimmy Stewart's slow, halting line delivery and naive, engaging manner was quickly accepted by the moviegoing public; and

WHEREAS, In 1939, Jimmy Stewart's portrayal of a shy, idealistic young senator fighting corruption in Congress in "Mr. Smith Goes to Washington" won him the New York Film Critics best actor award and gave him his first Academy Award nomination; and

WHEREAS, Jimmy Stewart is best remembered for his role in the 1946 sentimental, holiday favorite, "It's a Wonderful Life," in which he plays the embittered idealist, George Bailey, a decent, small-town citizen; and

WHEREAS, In 1940, Jimmy Stewart won an Academy Award, performing in "The Philadelphia Story" with Katharine Hepburn and Cary Grant; and

WHEREAS, In 1941, Jimmy Stewart enlisted in the United States Army and was assigned to the United States Army Air Corps; and

WHEREAS, In 1943, Jimmy Stewart was sent to Europe as commander of a bomber squadron and awarded the Air Medal and the Distinguished Flying Cross; and

WHEREAS, During the late 1940s, Jimmy Stewart enjoyed success on Broadway as the ingratiating inebriate Elwood P. Dowd, whose best friend was an invisible 6-foot rabbit in "Harvey"; and

WHEREAS, The play "Harvey" was adapted for the movie screen in 1950, earning another Academy Award nomination for Stewart; and

WHEREAS, Jimmy Stewart received an Honorary Academy Award in 1985 for, as the Academy noted, "his 50 years of meaningful performances, for his high ideals, both on and off the screen,

with the respect and affection of his colleagues"; and

WHEREAS, In 1985, Jimmy Stewart was awarded the Presidential Medal of Freedom, the nation's highest civilian honor; and

WHEREAS, In 1995, Jimmy Stewart was honored when The Jimmy Stewart Museum opened in his hometown of Indiana, Pennsylvania; and

WHEREAS, Jimmy Stewart died July 2, 1997, at his home in Beverly Hills, California; therefore be it

RESOLVED, That the House of Representatives designate May 20, 2023, as "Jimmy Stewart Day" in Pennsylvania.