
THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF PENNSYLVANIA

HOUSE RESOLUTION

No. 657 Session of
2020

INTRODUCED BY GLEIM, SONNEY, ROTHMAN, LONGIETTI, MURT, PICKETT,
DONATUCCI, BURNS, READSHAW, SCHLEGEL CULVER, MILLARD,
JOZWIAK, BROOKS, BIZZARRO, FREEMAN, HEFFLEY, KORTZ, SCHMITT,
JONES, YOUNGBLOOD, RYAN AND BERNSTINE, JANUARY 10, 2020

REFERRED TO COMMITTEE ON JUDICIARY, JANUARY 10, 2020

A RESOLUTION

1 Designating the week of February 8 through 15, 2020, as "Court
2 Reporting and Captioning Week" in Pennsylvania.

3 WHEREAS, For millennia, individuals have wanted the spoken
4 word translated into text to record history and, to accomplish
5 this task, have relied on scribes; and

6 WHEREAS, The profession of scribe was born with the rise of
7 civilization; and

8 WHEREAS, In Ancient Egypt, scribes were considered to be the
9 literate elite, recording laws and other important documents
10 and, since that time, have served as impartial witnesses to
11 history; and

12 WHEREAS, Scribes were present with our nation's founding
13 fathers as the Declaration of Independence and Bill of Rights
14 were drafted; and

15 WHEREAS, President Lincoln entrusted scribes to record the
16 Emancipation Proclamation; and

17 WHEREAS, Since the advent of shorthand machines, these

1 scribes have been known as court reporters and have played a
2 permanent and invaluable role in courtrooms across our country;
3 and

4 WHEREAS, Court reporters work in the General Assembly
5 preserving members' words and actions; and

6 WHEREAS, Court reporters and captioners are responsible for
7 the closed-captioning seen scrolling across television screens,
8 at sporting stadiums and in other community and education
9 settings, bringing information to millions of deaf and hearing-
10 impaired Americans every day; and

11 WHEREAS, Court reporters and captioners translate the spoken
12 word into text and preserve our history; and

13 WHEREAS, Whether called the scribes of yesterday or the court
14 reporters and captioners of today, the individuals who preserve
15 our nation's history are truly the guardians of the record;
16 therefore be it

17 RESOLVED, That the House of Representatives designate the
18 week of February 8 through 15, 2020, as "Court Reporting and
19 Captioning Week" in Pennsylvania; and be it further

20 RESOLVED, That the House of Representatives call on the
21 residents of this Commonwealth to observe "Court Reporting and
22 Captioning Week" with appropriate programs, ceremonies and
23 educational activities.