

THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF PENNSYLVANIA

SENATE RESOLUTION

No. 246 Session of 2024

INTRODUCED BY BOSCOLA, ROBINSON, KEARNEY, STREET, FONTANA,  
COMITTA, BROWN, PENNYCUICK, SCHWANK, SANTARSIERO,  
TARTAGLIONE, HUGHES, KANE, MARTIN, ARGALL, HAYWOOD, LAUGHLIN,  
J. WARD, COSTA AND HUTCHINSON, MARCH 11, 2024

REFERRED TO RULES AND EXECUTIVE NOMINATIONS, MARCH 11, 2024

A RESOLUTION

1 Designating the month of April 2024 as "Community College Month"  
2 in Pennsylvania.

3 WHEREAS, Pennsylvania ranks 48th in the nation for the  
4 affordability of higher education; and

5 WHEREAS, Community colleges play a critical role in providing  
6 Pennsylvanians with an affordable and quality higher education;  
7 and

8 WHEREAS, Community colleges are the largest provider of  
9 higher education in this Commonwealth, serving more than 245,000  
10 students; and

11 WHEREAS, Many of the students attending community colleges  
12 come from low-income families; and

13 WHEREAS, Forty-two percent of community college students come  
14 from underrepresented or minority groups; and

15 WHEREAS, Community colleges educate the largest number of  
16 first-generation or nontraditional students in higher education;  
17 and

1       WHEREAS, Community colleges can save students tens of  
2 thousands of dollars on the completion of a four-year degree;  
3 and

4       WHEREAS, These savings and the affordability of community  
5 college provides students with access to higher education and  
6 enhanced economic opportunities; and

7       WHEREAS, Economic opportunities provided by community  
8 colleges, for some students, come through the many career-  
9 focused degrees and programs offered by community colleges; and

10       WHEREAS, Community colleges serve as the largest post-  
11 secondary trainer in Pennsylvania, providing workforce  
12 development training and degrees; and

13       WHEREAS, Community colleges provide workforce training for  
14 87,000 individuals located throughout this Commonwealth; and

15       WHEREAS, Seventy-five percent of community college workforce  
16 development and training programs are aligned with high priority  
17 occupations as defined by the Department of Labor and Industry,  
18 including nursing, manufacturing and public safety; and

19       WHEREAS, Community colleges partner with more than 2,100  
20 employers to train Pennsylvanians for family-sustaining careers;  
21 and

22       WHEREAS, These partnerships and programs provide employers  
23 highly qualified workers for high-demand occupations that meet  
24 economic needs in the region and this Commonwealth; therefore be  
25 it

26       RESOLVED, That the Senate designate the month of April 2024  
27 as "Community College Month" in Pennsylvania.