



AGENDA
HOUSE AGRICULTURE AND RURAL AFFAIRS COMMITTEE

Tuesday September 30 2025

10:45 a.m.

515 Irvis Office Building

- Call to Order
- Pledge of Allegiance
- Attendance Roll Call
- Legislation
 - **HR309 Matzie** designates month of October 2025 as "Wine, Wineries and Grapes Month"
 - **A01713Pashinski** Adds October 2026
 - **HR317 Kinkead** recognizes the month of September 2025 as "Hunger Action Month"
 - **A01732Pashinski** Adds September 2026
 - **HR323 Sappey** recognizes the month of October 2025 as "National Animal Safety and Protection Month"
 - **A01757Pashinski** Adds October 2026
- Adjourn

EDDIE DAY PASHINSKI, MEMBER

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House of Representatives
COMMONWEALTH OF PENNSYLVANIA
HARRISBURG

COMMITTEES

AGRICULTURE & RURAL AFFAIRS –
DEMOCRATIC CHAIRMAN

GRANDPARENTS RAISING GRANDCHILDREN
CAUCUS – CHAIRMAN

PENNSYLVANIA LEGISLATIVE SPORTSMEN'S
CAUCUS – CO-CHAIRMAN

HARDWOODS DEVELOPMENT COUNCIL –
BOARD MEMBER

BOARD MEMBER OF CENTER FOR RURAL PA
– BOARD MEMBER

September 24th, 2025

TO: Agriculture and Rural Affairs Committee Members

FROM: Eddie Day Pashinski, Chairman
Agriculture and Rural Affairs Committee

SUBJECT: Agriculture and Rural Affairs Committee Voting Meeting
September 30th

The House Agriculture and Rural Affairs Committee will hold a meeting for the purpose of a voting meeting and any other business that may come before the committee on **Tuesday September 30, 2025 10:45 a.m.** in Room 515 Irvis Office Building:

- **HR309 Matzie** designates month of October 2025 as "Wine, Wineries and Grapes Month"
- **HR317 Kinhead** recognizes the month of September 2025 as "Hunger Action Month"
- **HR323 Sappey** recognizes the month of October 2025 as "National Animal Safety and Protection Month"

If you are unable to attend this meeting, kindly submit a vote by designation form or an official leave of absence form. Teams link will be sent later.

Please contact Paula Hunter Phunter@pahouse.net with your attendance plans.

Thank you
Chairman Eddie Day Pashinski

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

DEMOCRATIC COMMITTEE BILL ANALYSIS

| | | | |
|-------------------|-----------------------------|----------------------------|-----------------------------------|
| Bill No: | HR0309 PN2295 | Prepared By: | Destiny Zeiders (717) 783-0686 |
| Committee: | Agriculture & Rural Affairs | Executive Director: | Destiny Zeiders |
| Sponsor: | Matzie, Robert | | |
| Date: | 9/22/2025 | | |

A. Brief Concept

A resolution designating October 2025, as "Wine, Wineries and Grapes Month" in Pennsylvania.

C. Analysis of the Bill

House Resolution 309 recognizes the economic impact and historical significance of wine, wineries, and grapes in Pennsylvania by designating October 2025, as "Wine, Wineries and Grapes Month." Additionally, it encourages Pennsylvania residents to celebrate "Wine, Wineries and Grapes Month" by enjoying the many grape products offered by Pennsylvania growers responsibly.

Effective Date:

As adopted by the House.

G. Relevant Existing Laws

N/A.

E. Prior Session (Previous Bill Numbers & House/Senate Votes)

2019-2020

HR 1046 Matzie. (202-0) 10.20.2020

2023-2024

HR213 Matzie (202-1)10.17.2023

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LEGISLATIVE REFERENCE BUREAU

AMENDMENTS TO HOUSE RESOLUTION NO. 309

Sponsor:

Printer's No. 2295

1 Amend Resolution, page 1, line 1, by striking out "month" and
2 inserting

3 months

4 Amend Resolution, page 1, line 1, by inserting after "2025"
5 and October 2026

6 Amend Resolution, page 2, line 7, by striking out "This" and
7 inserting

8 In

9 Amend Resolution, page 2, line 12, by striking out "month"
10 and inserting

11 months

12 Amend Resolution, page 2, line 12, by inserting after "2025"
13 and October 2026

THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF PENNSYLVANIA

HOUSE RESOLUTION

No. 309 Session of
2025

INTRODUCED BY MATZIE, DEASY, ISAACSON, HARKINS, VITALI, CONKLIN,
MERSKI, WARREN, SAPPEY, HOHENSTEIN, RIVERA, GUZMAN, HILL-
EVANS, BELLMON, WAXMAN, SANCHEZ, PICKETT, COOPER AND
ZIMMERMAN, SEPTEMBER 9, 2025

REFERRED TO COMMITTEE ON AGRICULTURE AND RURAL AFFAIRS,
SEPTEMBER 10, 2025

A RESOLUTION

Designating the month of October 2025 as "Wine, Wineries and
Grapes Month" in Pennsylvania.

WHEREAS, Pennsylvania growers produce many of the finest food
products available worldwide; and

WHEREAS, Today, the growth of Pennsylvania grapes occurs
thanks to the tireless efforts of generations of Pennsylvanians
who played instrumental roles in the founding of this nation's
great wine industry; and

WHEREAS, The nation's first commercial grapevine nursery
operated in Montgomery County in southeastern Pennsylvania; and

WHEREAS, With more than 300 wineries in this Commonwealth,
Pennsylvania ranks seventh in the nation for the number of
wineries and fourth for the amount of wine produced; and

WHEREAS, Our wineries, grapes and grape juice provide an
annual 1.5-billion-dollar economic impact to this Commonwealth;
and

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

DEMOCRATIC COMMITTEE BILL ANALYSIS

| | | | |
|-------------------|-----------------------------|----------------------------|-----------------------------------|
| Bill No: | HR0317 PN2308 | Prepared By: | Destiny Zeiders (717) 783-0686 |
| Committee: | Agriculture & Rural Affairs | Executive Director: | Destiny Zeiders |
| Sponsor: | Kinthead, Emily | | |
| Date: | 9/22/2025 | | |

A. Brief Concept

Designating the month of September 2025 as "Hunger Action Month" in Pennsylvania.

C. Analysis of the Bill

The resolution designates September as Hunger Action Month, which is an annual campaign to raise awareness of hunger in the United States and to take action to combat poverty, inequity, and injustice to end hunger for good.

In Pennsylvania, more than 1.5 million individuals experience food insecurity and one in every six children do not know where their next meal will come from. To combat food insecurity, the Commonwealth is working with Feeding Pennsylvania and Hunger-Free Pennsylvania to educate people about the role and importance of food banks in addressing hunger and raise awareness about the need to devote more resources and attention to hunger issues. The resolution highlights the need for public and private entities to work together in every corner of Pennsylvania to take action to end hunger.

Effective Date:

Upon Adoption.

G. Relevant Existing Laws

Not applicable.

E. Prior Session (Previous Bill Numbers & House/Senate Votes)

2023-2024

HR528 (Kinthead)(201-1) 9.30.2024

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LEGISLATIVE REFERENCE BUREAU

AMENDMENTS TO HOUSE RESOLUTION NO. 317

Sponsor:

Printer's No. 2308

1 Amend Resolution, page 1, line 1, by striking out "month" and
2 inserting

3 months

4 Amend Resolution, page 1, line 1, by inserting after "2025"
5 and September 2026

6 Amend Resolution, page 2, line 22, by striking out "month"
7 and inserting

8 months

9 Amend Resolution, page 2, line 22, by inserting after "2025"
10 and September 2026

THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF PENNSYLVANIA

HOUSE RESOLUTION

No. 317 Session of
2025

INTRODUCED BY KINKEAD, PASHINSKI, FREEMAN, HILL-EVANS, WAXMAN,
McNEILL, HOWARD, PROBST, CEPEDA-FREYTIZ, VITALI, ISAACSON,
MADDEN, GIRAL, SANCHEZ, VENKAT, STEELE, SAMUELSON, KHAN,
DEASY, SCHLOSSBERG, NEILSON, HOHENSTEIN, CERRATO, MALAGARI,
CIRESI, O'MARA, MENTZER AND GREEN, SEPTEMBER 12, 2025

REFERRED TO COMMITTEE ON AGRICULTURE AND RURAL AFFAIRS,
SEPTEMBER 15, 2025

A RESOLUTION

1 Recognizing the month of September 2025 as "Hunger Action Month"
2 in Pennsylvania.

3 WHEREAS, Hunger and food insecurity are issues of vital
4 concern in Pennsylvania where, according to Feeding America,
5 more than 1.5 million individuals experience food insecurity and
6 one in every six children do not know where their next meal will
7 come from; and

8 WHEREAS, Everyone needs nutritious food to thrive and in
9 every community in America people are working hard to provide
10 for themselves and their families yet 47 million people,
11 including more than 14 million children, face food insecurity in
12 the United States; and

13 WHEREAS, Food insecurity, the condition of limited or
14 uncertain access to adequate food, is associated with numerous
15 adverse social and health outcomes and is a critical public
16 health issue; and

1 WHEREAS, The fight against hunger requires engaging a wide
2 range of public and private entities, including policymakers,
3 business leaders, food banks, community organizations, farmers,
4 producers and concerned residents; and

5 WHEREAS, The Commonwealth is committed to taking action to
6 combat hunger in every corner of our State and to provide
7 additional resources to those in need; and

8 WHEREAS, The Commonwealth is working with Feeding
9 Pennsylvania and Hunger-Free Pennsylvania to educate people
10 about the role and importance of food banks in addressing hunger
11 and raise awareness about the need to devote more resources and
12 attention to hunger issues; and

13 WHEREAS, Feeding Pennsylvania, Hunger-Free Pennsylvania and
14 antihunger organizations across this Commonwealth distributed
15 more than 164 million pounds of food last year to Pennsylvanians
16 experiencing food insecurity; and

17 WHEREAS, The month of September is recognized as "Hunger
18 Action Month" across the country in order to bring attention to
19 the issue of food insecurity in our communities and to mobilize
20 the public in the movement to end hunger; therefore be it

21 RESOLVED, That the House of Representatives recognize the
22 month of September 2025 as "Hunger Action Month" in
23 Pennsylvania.

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

DEMOCRATIC COMMITTEE BILL ANALYSIS

| | | | |
|-------------------|-----------------------------|----------------------------|-----------------|
| Bill No: | HR0323 PN2337 | Prepared By: | Destiny Zeiders |
| Committee: | Agriculture & Rural Affairs | | 717 783 0686 |
| Sponsor: | Sappey, Christina | Executive Director: | Destiny Zeiders |
| Date: | 9/25/2025 | | |

A. Brief Concept

Recognizing the month of October 2025 as "National Animal Safety and Protection Month" in Pennsylvania.

B. Committee Votes

N/A

C. Analysis of the Bill

HR323 recognizes the month of October 2025 as "National Animal Safety and Protection Month" in Pennsylvania to raise awareness on how to keep animals safe and protected.

Animal safety and protection efforts in the United States began in Massachusetts, where the General Court included a law in the Body of Liberties of 1641 that prohibited animal cruelty and the exact origins of the national observance are unclear but it is widely believed to have been established by an organization focused on promoting the safe coexistence of humans and animals.

People are encouraged to celebrate the holiday by microchipping their pets to help prevent them from getting lost, volunteering at animal shelters to support animals in need and visiting zoos to further educate themselves about animal care and conservation

"National Animal Safety and Protection Month" is important because it promotes animal safety by educating the public on proper care and precautions, helps to reduce animal abuse by raising awareness about what animal abuse is and how to report it and supports animal shelters through increased donations from animal lovers during the month

Effective Date:

D. Third Party Feedback

N/A

E. Prior Session (Previous Bill Numbers & House/Senate Votes)

N/A

F. Key Points

- Efforts to ensure the safety and well-being of animals in the United States began over 300 years ago.

LEGISLATIVE REFERENCE BUREAU

AMENDMENTS TO HOUSE RESOLUTION NO. 323

Sponsor:

Printer's No. 2337

1 Amend Resolution, page 1, line 1, by striking out "month" and
2 inserting

3 months

4 Amend Resolution, page 1, line 1, by inserting after "2025"
5 and October 2026

6 Amend Resolution, page 2, line 18, by striking out "month"
7 and inserting

8 months

9 Amend Resolution, page 2, line 18, by inserting after "2025"
10 and October 2026

THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF PENNSYLVANIA

HOUSE RESOLUTION

No. 323 Session of
2025

INTRODUCED BY SAPPEY, HILL-EVANS, McNEILL, WAXMAN, SCHLOSSBERG,
HOWARD, BRENNAN, VITALI, GUENST, GALLAGHER, SHUSTERMAN,
SANCHEZ, CONKLIN, STEELE, ISAACSON, FRANKEL, CIRESI AND
CEPEDA-FREYTIZ, SEPTEMBER 24, 2025

REFERRED TO COMMITTEE ON AGRICULTURE AND RURAL AFFAIRS,
SEPTEMBER 25, 2025

A RESOLUTION

1 Recognizing the month of October 2025 as "National Animal Safety
2 and Protection Month" in Pennsylvania.

3 WHEREAS, "National Animal Safety and Protection Month" is
4 dedicated to raising awareness about how to keep animals safe
5 and protected; and

6 WHEREAS, Animal safety and protection efforts in the United
7 States began in Massachusetts, where the General Court included
8 a law in the Body of Liberties of 1641 that prohibited animal
9 cruelty; and

10 WHEREAS, The exact origins of the national observance are
11 unclear but it is widely believed to have been established by an
12 organization focused on promoting the safe coexistence of humans
13 and animals; and

14 WHEREAS, People can celebrate the holiday by microchipping
15 their pets to help prevent them from getting lost, volunteering
16 at animal shelters to support animals in need and visiting zoos

1 to further educate themselves about animal care and
2 conservation; and

3 WHEREAS, "National Animal Safety and Protection Month" is
4 important because it promotes animal safety by educating the
5 public on proper care and precautions, helps to reduce animal
6 abuse by raising awareness about what animal abuse is and how to
7 report it and supports animal shelters through increased
8 donations from animal lovers during the month; and

9 WHEREAS, "National Animal Safety and Protection Month" is
10 observed annually in October; and

11 WHEREAS, It is important for all Pennsylvanians to be aware
12 of "National Animal Safety and Protection Month," the origin of
13 "National Animal Safety and Protection Month," when "National
14 Animal Safety and Protection Month" is held annually and the
15 purpose and impact of "National Animal Safety and Protection
16 Month"; therefore be it

17 RESOLVED, That the House of Representatives recognize the
18 month of October 2025 as "National Animal Safety and Protection
19 Month" in Pennsylvania.