



SPONSOR: Sen. Huxtable & Rep. Schwartzkopf
Sens. Hocker, Poore, Townsend, Wilson; Reps.
Longhurst, Osienski, Parker Selby

DELAWARE STATE SENATE
152nd GENERAL ASSEMBLY

SENATE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION NO. 59

RECOGNIZING MAY 22, 2023 AS NATIONAL MARITIME DAY.

1 WHEREAS, National Maritime Day was first declared by Congress in 1933 to commemorate the first successful
2 transatlantic voyage by a steamship in 1819 by the S.S. Savannah; and

3 WHEREAS, the observance honors the contributions of the American Merchant Marine, civilians who have
4 defended the United States since 1775; and

5 WHEREAS, more than 250,000 Merchant Marine members served during World War II, with 6,700 giving their
6 lives and more than 800 U.S. merchant ships being sunk or damaged; and

7 WHEREAS, National Maritime Day also honors the maritime industry and the benefits it brings the United States
8 in terms of transportation, jobs, goods, and recreational opportunities; and

9 WHEREAS, merchant mariners are critical to extending U.S. support and assistance to foreign nations and local
10 communities hit by natural disasters and other crises, and have been crucial during the COVID-19 pandemic to maintaining
11 worldwide supply chains; and

12 WHEREAS, Delaware's history is closely aligned with the maritime industry and trade, including many towns,
13 such as Lewes, Milton, Seaford, and Smyrna, having historic ties to the shipbuilding industry; and

14 WHEREAS, the original Indian River Life-Saving Station in Rehoboth Beach was built in 1876 for use by the
15 U.S. Lifesaving Service, a government organization created to respond to the alarming number of shipwrecks along the
16 coastlines of the U.S. and the precursor to today's U.S. Coast Guard; and

17 WHEREAS, Delaware continues to have strong ties to the maritime industry through the Port of Wilmington, the
18 Cape May - Lewes Ferry, and the Delaware City Refinery.

19 NOW, THEREFORE:

20 BE IT RESOLVED by the Senate of the 152nd General Assembly of the State of Delaware, the House of
21 Representatives concurring therein, that the General Assembly hereby designates May 22, 2023, as "National Maritime
22 Day" in the State of Delaware.

SYNOPSIS

This Concurrent Resolution recognizes May 22, 2023 as “National Maritime Day” in Delaware.

Author: Senator Huxtable