



SPONSOR: Sen. Mantzavinos  
Sens. Buckson, Gay, Hansen, Hocker, Hoffner, Pettyjohn,  
Pinkney, Sokola, Townsend, Walsh, Wilson

DELAWARE STATE SENATE  
152nd GENERAL ASSEMBLY

SENATE RESOLUTION NO. 19

RECOGNIZING MARCH 25TH AS "GREEK INDEPENDENCE DAY" IN THE STATE OF DELAWARE.

1 WHEREAS, the year 2024 will mark the 203rd Anniversary of Greek Independence; and

2 WHEREAS, the Greek people proudly trace their heritage back thousands of years in Europe, where they  
3 developed an advanced civilization unlike any the world had yet seen; and

4 WHEREAS, upon the fall of the City of Constantinople in 1453, the Greek people began almost four centuries  
5 under foreign rule in the Ottoman Empire; and

6 WHEREAS, in March 1821, the yearning for Greek independence inspired multiple militias to engage in battles  
7 against the Ottoman Empire including an incursion into Moldavia led by Alexandros Ypsilantis, and various skirmishes in  
8 the Peloponnese and on several islands; and

9 WHEREAS, on March 25, 1821, Bishop Germanos of Patras raised the Greek flag at the Monastery of Agia Lavra  
10 in the Peloponnese, marking the beginning of the war for independence; and

11 WHEREAS, in January 1822, the Greeks officially declared independence from the Ottoman Empire; and

12 WHEREAS, the Greeks valiantly waged war against their Ottoman rulers under the brave leadership of Theodoros  
13 Kolokotronis for almost nine years until a part of modern Greece was declared independent; and

14 WHEREAS, the war of independence was formally concluded in 1832 with the signing of the Treaty of  
15 Constantinople, further expanding the borders of a modern, independent Greek state; and

16 WHEREAS, March 25th is celebrated as Independence Day in Greece and in Greek communities around the  
17 world, commemorating the beginning of the war of independence; and

18 WHEREAS, throughout history, the Greek people have exhibited an enduring sense of bravery in rising up against  
19 oppressors; with Winston Churchill noting in a famed World War II speech that "Until now we used to say that the Greeks  
20 fight like heroes. Now we shall say: The heroes fight like Greeks;" and

21 WHEREAS, Ancient Greece has shaped modern society by originating the concepts of Logic, Science, Lyrics,  
22 Philosophy, and History as well as being the birthplace of democratic ideals, inspiring the notion of participation in  
23 government which influenced the framing of the United States Constitution; and

24 WHEREAS, Greece has continued to enrich our culture in the fields of literature, philosophy, and architecture, and  
25 has promoted the modern Olympic Games, hosting the first in 1896 and most recently in 2004; and

26 WHEREAS, we also honor Greek-Americans in Delaware who have improved our community, shown love for  
27 family, and shared with us their traditions to learn and celebrate; and

28 WHEREAS, it is the sense of the Delaware General Assembly to recognize those Delawareans of Hellenic descent  
29 for their enduring contributions to the educational, social, moral, and economic principles that are so deeply ingrained in the  
30 fabric of our country and State.

31 NOW, THEREFORE:

32 BE IT RESOLVED by the Senate of the 152nd General Assembly of the State of Delaware, that March 25, 2024,  
33 will be celebrated as the 203rd Anniversary of Greek Independence and that the Senate reaffirms Delaware's abiding  
34 commitment to the magnificent principles of democracy and religious freedom.

35 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Secretary of the Senate be and hereby is authorized and directed to  
36 transmit duly certified copies of this resolution to Her Excellency Ekaterini Nassika, Ambassador of Greece to the United  
37 States, the Holy Trinity Greek Orthodox Church in Wilmington, and Archbishop Elpidophoros of the Greek Archdiocese of  
38 America.

#### SYNOPSIS

This resolution recognizes March 25th as "Greek Independence Day" in Delaware.

Author: Senator Mantzavinos