**South Carolina General Assembly**

122nd Session, 2017-2018

**A228, R270, H4913**

**STATUS INFORMATION**

General Bill

Sponsors: Reps. M. Rivers, Herbkersman, W. Newton, J.E. Smith, Cobb‑Hunter, Gilliard, Bamberg, Thigpen, Kirby, Hosey, Williams, Henegan, Alexander, Weeks, Jefferson, Robinson‑Simpson, Caskey, Brown, Dillard, Hart, Howard, Murphy, Pendarvis, Erickson, McEachern, Bowers, Bradley and Govan

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Introduced in the House on February 13, 2018

Introduced in the Senate on April 9, 2018

Passed by the General Assembly on May 8, 2018

Governor's Action: May 18, 2018, Signed

Summary: Penn Center Heritage Day

**HISTORY OF LEGISLATIVE ACTIONS**

Date Body Action Description with journal page number

2/13/2018 House Introduced and read first time ([House Journal‑page 30](file:///h:\hj\20180213.docx))

2/13/2018 House Referred to Committee on **Education and Public Works** ([House Journal‑page 30](file:///h:\hj\20180213.docx))

3/1/2018 House Member(s) request name added as sponsor: Erickson

4/4/2018 House Recalled from Committee on **Education and Public Works** ([House Journal‑page 31](file:///h:\hj\20180404.docx))

4/5/2018 House Member(s) request name added as sponsor: McEachern, Bowers, Bradley, Govan

4/5/2018 House Read second time ([House Journal‑page 40](file:///h:\hj\20180405.docx))

4/5/2018 House Roll call Yeas‑96 Nays‑0 ([House Journal‑page 40](file:///h:\hj\20180405.docx))

4/5/2018 House Unanimous consent for third reading on next legislative day ([House Journal‑page 41](file:///h:\hj\20180405.docx))

4/6/2018 House Read third time and sent to Senate ([House Journal‑page 5](file:///h:\hj\20180406.docx))

4/9/2018 Senate Introduced and read first time ([Senate Journal‑page 17](file:///h:\sj\20180409.docx))

4/9/2018 Senate Referred to Committee on **General** ([Senate Journal‑page 17](file:///h:\sj\20180409.docx))

4/25/2018 Senate Committee report: Favorable **General** ([Senate Journal‑page 15](file:///h:\sj\20180425.docx))

5/1/2018 Senate Read second time ([Senate Journal‑page 26](file:///h:\sj\20180501.docx))

5/1/2018 Senate Roll call Ayes‑41 Nays‑0 ([Senate Journal‑page 26](file:///h:\sj\20180501.docx))

5/8/2018 Senate Read third time and enrolled ([Senate Journal‑page 37](file:///h:\sj\20180508.docx))

5/14/2018 Ratified R 270

5/18/2018 Signed By Governor

5/25/2018 Effective date 05/18/18

5/31/2018 Act No. 228

View the latest [legislative information](http://www.scstatehouse.gov/billsearch.php?billnumbers=4913&session=122&summary=B) at the website

**VERSIONS OF THIS BILL**

[2/13/2018](file:///p:\pprever\2017-18\4913_20180213.docx)

[4/4/2018](file:///p:\pprever\2017-18\4913_20180404.docx)

[4/25/2018](file:///p:\pprever\2017-18\4913_20180425.docx)

(A228, R270, H4913)

**AN ACT TO AMEND THE CODE OF LAWS OF SOUTH CAROLINA, 1976, BY ADDING SECTION 53‑3‑230 SO AS TO DESIGNATE THE SECOND SATURDAY OF NOVEMBER OF EACH YEAR AS “PENN CENTER HERITAGE DAY” IN SOUTH CAROLINA.**

Whereas, founded in 1862, Penn School was one of the first academic schools in the South established by Northern missionaries, to provide a formal education for formerly enslaved West Africans. After the school closed in 1948, Penn became the first African American site in South Carolina whose primary purpose was to safeguard the heritage of a Gullah Geechee community; and

Whereas, later, in the 1960s, Penn Center took up the mantle of social justice by ushering in the Civil Rights Movement and serving as the only location in South Carolina where interracial groups, such as Dr. Martin L. King, Jr., the Southern Christian Leadership Conference, and the Peace Corps could have safe sanctuary in an era of mandated segregation; and

Whereas, Penn Center continues to thrive as a national monument promoting historic preservation, as well as a catalyst for economic sustainability throughout the Sea Islands. Its far‑reaching impact on local, national, and international communities has been the greatest legacy of the Penn Center’s history; and

Whereas, the mission of Penn Center is to promote and preserve Penn’s true history and culture through its commitment to education, community development, and social justice; and

Whereas, Penn Center’s vision is that it will be a world‑class organization that serves as a local, national, and international resource center, and catalyst for the development of programs for community self‑sufficiency, civil and human rights, and positive change. Penn Center will encourage the development of critical thinking, creative skills, and social consciousness through preserving and documenting history, collecting and exhibiting, presenting, and exploring ideas. Now, therefore,

Be it enacted by the General Assembly of the State of South Carolina:

**Penn Center Heritage Day**

SECTION 1. Chapter 3, Title 53 of the 1976 Code is amended by adding:

“Section 53‑3‑230. The second Saturday of November of each year is designated as ‘Penn Center Heritage Day’ in South Carolina to promote and preserve Penn Center’s true history and culture through its commitment to education, community development, and social justice.”

**Time effective**

SECTION 2. This act takes effect upon approval by the Governor.

Ratified the 14th day of May, 2018.

Approved the 18th day of May, 2018.

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