



Text File

Introduced: 9/8/2009

Bill No: 2009-1749, Version: 1

Committee: City Council

Status: Adopted

**WHEREAS**, early German immigration into Pennsylvania began in 1683 and had three large waves of immigration before our revolution in 1776, with Benjamin Franklin admiring their determination and work ethic; and

**WHEREAS**, the 1800s saw its own wave of immigration which included the many Germans who settled in what became known as "Deutschtown" in Allegheny City, and the skilled and hard working people founded businesses and singing clubs and were welcome additions to the fast growing area; and

**WHEREAS**, in the 2000 census, German roots were among the most commonly listed for our state and region, the natural beauty of Western Pennsylvania often being described as reminiscent of the homeland that these immigrants left; and

**WHEREAS**, the most recent small wave of German immigration to our area followed WWII, as young people who had lived through that war as children moved to America to join family and friends who had emigrated earlier; and

**WHEREAS**, the United States Congress, by Public Law 100-104, has designated October 6 as **German-American Day** throughout the nation; and

**WHEREAS**, The Alliance of Germanic Societies of Pittsburgh, consisting of the Alpen Schuhplattler und Trachten Verein, Austrian Cultural Society, DANK (Pittsburgh Chapter), East Pittsburgh Saengerbund, Greater Beneficial Union of Pittsburgh, G.T.V. D'Lustigen Isartaler, Institute for German American Relations, Pittsburgh District Kinderchor, Pittsburgh District Nord-Amerikanisher Saengerbund, Pittsburgh Swiss Singers, Swiss American Society of Pittsburgh, Teutonia Damenchor, Teutonia Maennerchor, Teutonia Maennerchor Club, and the Austrian, German, and Swiss Nationality Rooms of the University of Pittsburgh, desire to celebrate German-American day on September 12, 2009; and

**WHEREAS**, the Alliance wishes to renew an old custom of celebrating by sponsoring a parade through the Streets of "Historic Deutschtown," ending at the cultural center celebrating those who came to America from Germany, Switzerland, and Austria;

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED** that the Council of the City of Pittsburgh thanks all of the German immigrants for their industry, skills and good citizenship, for they have added to the richness of our area; and designate East Ohio Street to be known for the day of September 12, 2009, as "Roebing Strasse," in honor of this years honoree John August Roebing; and

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**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED**, that the Council of the City of Pittsburgh does hereby declare September 12, 2009 as German Heritage Day, in the City of Pittsburgh. *Glück auf!*