GREETINGS:

It is my pleasure to join with the Pennsylvania Resettlement Program and the commonwealth’s advocates, families, and charitable organizations to recognize June 20, 2017, as World Refugee Day.

When founding our commonwealth, William Penn had a vision of inclusion, tolerance, and religious freedom. Pennsylvania has a rich history of opening its doors to those facing persecution, and has become a home for many seeking refuge. Pennsylvania continues to stay true to its values and build on its legacy of accepting immigrants and refugees from around the world. Refugees in the commonwealth have made significant contributions to our communities and have demonstrated determination, hard work, and a commitment to success. World Refugee Day promotes greater public awareness and understanding of the trials and triumphs of refugees. I applaud the Pennsylvania Resettlement Program and all the advocacy organizations for being a voice for those in need and upholding the commonwealth’s most precious values. It is my hope that the dedication demonstrated by these individuals will inspire others for years to come.

As Governor, and on behalf of all citizens of the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania, I am honored to support June 20, 2017, as World Refugee Day. Please accept my best wishes for continued success in your mission.

TOM WOLF
Governor
2017