

11.2 PA flag TKN_FlagFacts_S_2Mb

[MUSIC PLAYING] In 1681, the King of England gave land in the New World to an Englishman named William Penn. Since the area was rich in forest, it was named Pennsylvania, which is Latin for Penn's woods.

Pennsylvania is a wonderful agricultural state. Actually, 30% of the state is considered agricultural land. And that's represented on the state seal, and the state seal is featured on the flag. There are corn stalks. There are sheaves of wheat. There are plows. And then above all this is a ship, and that's meant to represent the importance of Philadelphia as a port city.

The flag's blue background represents loyalty and justice. It's the same color blue found on the American flag, which originated in Pennsylvania.

Well, June 14th is Flag Day in the United States, and that's because, in 1777, the Continental Congress met in Philadelphia, and that's when they accepted the first-ever American flag.

The Declaration of Independence and the Constitution were also written in Pennsylvania. Despite these contributions to our federal system, Pennsylvanians did not want any government to have unlimited powers over their state. So emblazoned across their state flag for all to see is the motto "Virtue, liberty, and independence."

And here's another influence Pennsylvania had on colonial America. When William Penn drafted the state's first constitution, he included religious freedom for all. That provision became the model for one of our nation's most important rights. With Flag Facts, I'm Scott.
