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THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF PENNSYLVANIA

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HOUSE RESOLUTION

No. 208 Session of  
2015

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INTRODUCED BY MAHER, READSHAW, BOBACK, V. BROWN, BROWNLEE,  
CALTAGIRONE, SCHLEGEL CULVER, DIGIROLAMO, DUSH, GABLER, HELM,  
HENNESSEY, JAMES, KILLION, KINSEY, KIRKLAND, KNOWLES,  
LONGIETTI, MILLARD, MUSTIO, NEUMAN, O'BRIEN, PEIFER, PICKETT,  
RAVENSTAHL, ROSS, ROZZI, SCHLOSSBERG, SONNEY, THOMAS, VEREB,  
VITALI, WARD, WATSON, YOUNGBLOOD, ZIMMERMAN, GOODMAN AND  
MARSICO, MARCH 30, 2015

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INTRODUCED AS NONCONTROVERSIAL RESOLUTION UNDER RULE 35,  
MARCH 30, 2015

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A RESOLUTION

1 Designating the week of May 3 through 9, 2015, as "Drinking  
2 Water Week" in Pennsylvania.

3 WHEREAS, While 80% of the earth's surface is covered with  
4 water, only 1% of that water is suitable for human consumption;  
5 and

6 WHEREAS, Groundwater, the water that soaks into the soil from  
7 raindrops and moves downward to fill cracks and other openings  
8 in beds of rock and sand, makes up about 90% of the fresh water  
9 on earth, not including polar icecaps; and

10 WHEREAS, Individual water wells tapping groundwater resources  
11 provide high-quality water to many homeowners and businesses;  
12 and

13 WHEREAS, Few people consider water supply when choosing a  
14 home or when taking a stand on local water supply regulations;  
15 and

1       WHEREAS, An estimated 2,200 municipally owned or investor-  
2 owned community drinking water systems provide high-quality  
3 water to homeowners and businesses; and

4       WHEREAS, Federal and State drinking water standards are  
5 upheld by the Department of Environmental Protection for all of  
6 those systems; and

7       WHEREAS, The Pennsylvania Public Utility Commission regulates  
8 the rates and service of investor-owned water companies in this  
9 Commonwealth; and

10       WHEREAS, The mission of the Pennsylvania Public Utility  
11 Commission is to ensure that safe and reliable service is  
12 provided to ratepayers at a reasonable price; and

13       WHEREAS, The Pennsylvania Infrastructure Investment Authority  
14 (PENNVEST) and the H2O PA program provide low-cost financial  
15 assistance for infrastructure improvements to community drinking  
16 water systems; and

17       WHEREAS, Ongoing cooperation among the Department of  
18 Environmental Protection, the Pennsylvania Public Utility  
19 Commission, PENNVEST and the H2O PA program strengthens drinking  
20 water system viability, enhances service, increases economies of  
21 scale, regionally maximizes efficient water supply and use and  
22 fosters economic development; and

23       WHEREAS, A State water plan has been developed to coordinate  
24 regional, county and local water allocation and use, land  
25 development planning and related zoning requirements under Act  
26 220 of 2002; and

27       WHEREAS, The American Water Works Association established  
28 "National Drinking Water Week" more than 30 years ago to call  
29 attention to water as a precious natural resource; and

30       WHEREAS, Water conservation and water quality maintenance are

1 essential to this Commonwealth and our nation; and

2 WHEREAS, Because the service provided by viable community  
3 drinking water systems is generally available instantaneously on  
4 a 24-hour basis, many of us take safe and reliable drinking  
5 water for granted; therefore be it

6 RESOLVED, That the House of Representatives designate the  
7 week of May 3 through 9, 2015, as "Drinking Water Week" in  
8 Pennsylvania to heighten awareness of drinking water treatment,  
9 monitoring, distribution and related costs and urge all  
10 residents of this Commonwealth to protect our watersheds,  
11 conserve our precious drinking water supply and preserve its  
12 superior quality.