
THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF PENNSYLVANIA

HOUSE RESOLUTION

No. 584 Session of
2013

INTRODUCED BY DENLINGER, BARRAR, SAINATO, SIMMONS, HAGGERTY,
TALLMAN, BOBACK, GREINER, MUSTIO, READSHAW, PICKETT, MILLARD,
SCHLEGEL CULVER, JAMES, SONNEY, O'NEILL, PAYNE, SAYLOR,
SCAVELLO, LAWRENCE, SWANGER, KORTZ, COX, ROCK, GIBBONS,
BAKER, HICKERNELL, CAUSER, M. K. KELLER, ROAE, METCALFE,
AUMENT, WATSON, STERN, MARSHALL, BLOOM, ADOLPH, GABLER,
GILLEN, EVERETT, HACKETT, HEFFLEY, PETRARCA, MACKENZIE,
D. COSTA, FARRY, CORBIN, GINGRICH, FEE, CUTLER, DAY, MALONEY,
STEPHENS, GROVE, HARHART AND C. HARRIS, DECEMBER 16, 2013

REFERRED TO COMMITTEE ON VETERANS AFFAIRS AND EMERGENCY
PREPAREDNESS, DECEMBER 16, 2013

A RESOLUTION

1 Urging the Congress of the United States to immediately consider
2 and pass H.R. 3685, which exempts emergency services
3 volunteers from being counted as full-time employees under
4 the Federal Patient Protection and Affordable Care Act.

5 WHEREAS, The United States of America depends on volunteer
6 fire, rescue and emergency medical services personnel to provide
7 vitally needed emergency services; and

8 WHEREAS, Benjamin Franklin is credited with creating the
9 first organized volunteer firefighting department system in
10 Philadelphia, Pennsylvania, and today approximately 97% of this
11 Commonwealth's fire service is made up of volunteers; and

12 WHEREAS, It has been estimated that in this Commonwealth
13 alone taxpayers save roughly \$6 billion on fire protection
14 services provided by volunteers; and

15 WHEREAS, Volunteer firefighters spend most of their time

1 training and fundraising to provide the critical emergency
2 services needed to protect life and property; and

3 WHEREAS, These same volunteers continue to struggle
4 financially to maintain the readiness they need to provide the
5 services expected and required; and

6 WHEREAS, The Internal Revenue Service is currently
7 promulgating regulations pertaining to the employer mandate
8 provision under the Patient Protection and Affordable Care Act
9 (ACA); and

10 WHEREAS, Under the employer mandate provision of the ACA,
11 employers with 50 or more employees must provide health
12 insurance or pay penalties; and

13 WHEREAS, The potential exists for fire companies to exceed 50
14 employees, either by themselves based on their size or if added
15 to a municipality's public employee compliment; and

16 WHEREAS, The impact on our volunteer emergency services and
17 our local governments, if not exempted from the employer mandate
18 provision of the ACA, would be very devastating; and

19 WHEREAS, This Commonwealth and our nation should be more
20 concerned with training volunteer first responders that provide
21 an adequate and critical service, instead of expending
22 unavailable resources in order to provide health care benefits
23 that are never expected; therefore be it

24 RESOLVED, That the House of Representatives urge the
25 Congress of the United States to immediately consider and pass
26 H.R. 3685, which exempts emergency services volunteers from
27 being counted as full-time employees under the Federal Patient
28 Protection and Affordable Care Act; and be it further

29 RESOLVED, That a copy of this resolution be transmitted to
30 the President, to the presiding officers of each house of

1 Congress and to each member of Congress from Pennsylvania.