## THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF PENNSYLVANIA

## No. 859 Session of 2015

INTRODUCED BY MCILHINNEY AND ALLOWAY, MAY 10, 2016

INTRODUCED AND ADOPTED, MAY 10, 2016

## A RESOLUTION

Designating the month of May 2016 as "Clean Water Counts Month" 1 in Pennsylvania. 2 3 WHEREAS, Pennsylvania is estimated to have more than 83,000 miles of streams, approximately 4,000 lakes and 80 trillion 4 5 gallons of groundwater; and WHEREAS, This Commonwealth has 19,000 miles of rivers and 6 7 streams that do not meet basic water quality standards, 5,800 miles as a result of agricultural operations, 5,500 miles as a 8 result of abandoned mine drainage and 4,300 miles as a result of 9 10 urban and suburban runoff; and

11 WHEREAS, Section 27 of Article I of the Constitution of 12 Pennsylvania states that, "The people have a right to clean air, 13 pure water, and to the preservation of the natural, scenic, 14 historic and esthetic values of the environment. Pennsylvania's 15 public natural resources are the common property of all the 16 people, including generations yet to come. As trustee of these 17 resources, the Commonwealth shall conserve and maintain them for the benefit of all the people."; and 18

1 WHEREAS, The Commonwealth's ability to attract growing 2 businesses and to provide a healthy environment for its 3 residents requires the prioritization of clean water 4 infrastructure and funding to ensure the protection of clean 5 water sources; and

6 WHEREAS, Clean water provides for greater health, stronger 7 communities and thriving economies within our region; therefore 8 be it

9 RESOLVED, That the Senate designate the month of May 2016 as
10 "Clean Water Counts Month" in Pennsylvania; and be it further
11 RESOLVED, That the Senate recognize the importance of clean
12 water as described in Section 27 of Article I of the
13 Constitution of Pennsylvania.

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