A RESOLUTION

Recognizing the month of November 2017 as "Carbon Monoxide Awareness Month" in Pennsylvania.

WHEREAS, Carbon monoxide is produced by furnaces, common household appliances, vehicles, generators, fireplaces and other systems that are powered by the burning of fuel, including natural gas, propane, gasoline, oil and wood; and

WHEREAS, November is the best time to raise awareness for carbon monoxide poisoning as the threat of exposure increases as people stay indoors and burn more fuel to heat their homes during the winter months; and

WHEREAS, Carbon monoxide is known as "the silent killer" because it is a colorless, odorless and tasteless poisonous gas that can be fatal when inhaled; and

WHEREAS, A 2007 study by the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention found that Pennsylvania leads the nation in
accidental carbon monoxide poisoning deaths; and

WHEREAS, The Centers for Disease Control and Prevention has determined that carbon monoxide claims approximately 50 lives each year and that carbon monoxide exposure sends more than 20,000 people to emergency rooms annually; and

WHEREAS, The Mayo Clinic has determined that 51% of all carbon monoxide poisoning cases reported involve children 6 years of age or younger; and

WHEREAS, The Consumer Product Safety Commission has determined that older adults more frequently have pre-existing health conditions that affect the heart, lungs and circulatory system, and the presence of one or more of these conditions lowers a victim's tolerance and increases the risk of fatal carbon monoxide exposure; and

WHEREAS, A January 2006 article in the Journal of the American Medical Association showed that, for individuals who were involved in carbon monoxide poisoning and survived, there was a three-fold increase in coronary artery disease seven years later when compared with patients who were not poisoned; and

WHEREAS, The Carbon Monoxide Safety Association has determined that the combined medical cost of carbon monoxide accidents, lost productivity and lost wages amounts to $8.8 billion per year; and

WHEREAS, Public education and awareness about carbon monoxide poisonings are critical to protecting residents of Pennsylvania from the dangers of this deadly gas and the risk factors in the home; and

WHEREAS, Carbon monoxide alarms are the most effective way to detect carbon monoxide; and

WHEREAS, There is a dramatic correlation between cities with
carbon monoxide alarm ordinances and lower death rates from carbon monoxide poisoning; therefore be it
RESOLVED, That the House of Representatives recognize the month of November 2017 as "Carbon Monoxide Awareness Month" in Pennsylvania.