
THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF PENNSYLVANIA

HOUSE RESOLUTION

No. 485 Session of
2017

INTRODUCED BY CRUZ, READSHAW, NEILSON, THOMAS AND D. COSTA,
SEPTEMBER 11, 2017

REFERRED TO COMMITTEE ON URBAN AFFAIRS, SEPTEMBER 11, 2017

A RESOLUTION

1 Urging the City of Philadelphia to launch a public education
2 campaign on the prohibitions and safety hazards associated
3 with pedestrians soliciting a ride, employment, business or
4 contributions along roadways, and urging the Philadelphia
5 Police Department to more strictly enforce State and local
6 laws.

7 WHEREAS, The primary intended purpose of the highway and
8 roadway system is the safe and efficient transport of vehicular
9 traffic; and

10 WHEREAS, Many major highways and roadways within this
11 Commonwealth, and specifically in the City of Philadelphia, are
12 congested, heavily traveled and carry more traffic than they
13 were constructed and designed to handle; and

14 WHEREAS, The presence of individuals along a highway or
15 roadway within the City of Philadelphia presents concerns for
16 the individuals' safety and the safety of motorists; and

17 WHEREAS, The safety concerns are heightened when individuals
18 linger, remain or loiter in the roadways or otherwise act to
19 distract motorists; and

20 WHEREAS, The dangerous combination of distracted motorists

1 and individuals stopping or standing on a roadway can hinder the
2 free flow of traffic, increase congestion and increase the risk
3 of a traffic accident; and

4 WHEREAS, In 2014, there were 121,317 reportable traffic
5 accidents in Pennsylvania, of which 1,195 individuals lost their
6 lives and 79,758 people were injured; and

7 WHEREAS, In the same year, the City of Philadelphia had
8 10,627 traffic accidents and 97 traffic-related deaths, of which
9 35 involved pedestrian fatalities and 1,548 involved injuries to
10 pedestrians; and

11 WHEREAS, In the City of Philadelphia, public highway
12 solicitation of funds for any purpose is prohibited unless the
13 Department of Licenses and Inspections determines that a
14 particular location or activity does not present a safety hazard
15 to the excepted vendor, solicitor or the public as authorized by
16 section 10-611 of the Philadelphia Code; and

17 WHEREAS, Roadway solicitation is prohibited in this
18 Commonwealth by 75 Pa.C.S. § 3545, which states in part that no
19 person shall stand on a roadway for the purpose of soliciting a
20 ride, employment, business or contributions from the occupant of
21 any vehicle; and

22 WHEREAS, The only statutory exception to the prohibition of
23 roadway solicitation is found at 35 Pa.C.S. § 7714, which allows
24 bona fide, duly constituted first responder organizations to
25 solicit donations at specific intersections by adhering to
26 certain requirements that ensure public and individual safety
27 and that maintain normal traffic operations; and

28 WHEREAS, The solicitation exception was granted to first
29 responder organizations because they are trained to safely
30 operate in traffic during roadway incidents; and

1 WHEREAS, The Commonwealth has significant government interest
2 in vehicular and pedestrian safety and the free flow of traffic;
3 therefore be it

4 RESOLVED, That the House of Representatives urge the City of
5 Philadelphia to launch a public education campaign on the
6 prohibitions and safety hazards associated with pedestrians
7 soliciting a ride, employment, business or contributions along
8 roadways; and be it further

9 RESOLVED, That the House of Representatives urge the
10 Philadelphia Police Department to more strictly enforce State
11 and local laws.