
THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF PENNSYLVANIA

SENATE RESOLUTION

No. 430 Session of
2018

INTRODUCED BY TOMLINSON AND BOSCOLA, SEPTEMBER 24, 2018

INTRODUCED AND ADOPTED, SEPTEMBER 24, 2018

A RESOLUTION

1 Designating the month of September 2018 as "#UTILITYCAREERS
2 Month" in Pennsylvania.

3 WHEREAS, Utility providers in this Commonwealth bring vital
4 services to our homes and businesses; and

5 WHEREAS, Utility employment represents tens of thousands of
6 community-oriented jobs with good wages, career growth and
7 training opportunities and the satisfaction of knowing that you
8 are serving your neighbors; and

9 WHEREAS, There is a strong need for additional skilled
10 utility workers across our nation and in this Commonwealth due
11 to a combination of factors, including an aging current
12 workforce and the growth of new systems and technologies; and

13 WHEREAS, Utility employment in this Commonwealth is growing
14 faster and wages are substantially higher than other employment
15 sectors; and

16 WHEREAS, The average wage for a utility worker in this
17 Commonwealth is just over \$93,000 per year, which is nearly
18 twice the average wage for other employment sectors; and

1 WHEREAS, The number of utility jobs has increased by more
2 than 11% over the past five years in this Commonwealth, which is
3 five times the job growth compared to other employment sectors;
4 and

5 WHEREAS, There is a nationwide and Statewide need for all of
6 the following skilled utility personnel:

7 (1) engineers;

8 (2) field operators who maintain existing systems and
9 build-out new systems;

10 (3) plant operators who keep the energy and water
11 flowing to our communities; and

12 (4) various technical experts, including cybersecurity
13 experts;

14 and

15 WHEREAS, Nationally, utility providers are expected to hire
16 an additional 70,000 workers by 2020 and growth in the energy
17 sector alone is expected to create an estimated 1.5 million jobs
18 by 2030; and

19 WHEREAS, Utility providers ensure that the residents of this
20 Commonwealth are safe and healthy; and

21 WHEREAS, It is important to ensure that utility providers
22 have the skilled personnel they need to meet the needs of today
23 and tomorrow; and

24 WHEREAS, It is essential for utility providers, State
25 agencies, educational institutions and other concerned parties
26 to work collaboratively to develop a skilled and diverse
27 workforce to support these essential services; therefore be it

28 RESOLVED, That the Senate designate the month of September
29 2018 as "#UTILITYCAREERS Month" in Pennsylvania in recognition
30 of the effort to increase access to information about utility

- 1 career opportunities and encourage efforts to highlight the
- 2 importance of educating the next generation of utility workers.