
THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF PENNSYLVANIA

HOUSE RESOLUTION

No. 193

Session of
1984

INTRODUCED BY JAROLIN, BELARDI, CAWLEY, MRKONIC, WARGO, BLAUM,
TIGUE, BALDWIN, McCALL, COSLETT, STEVENS, CESSAR, SERAFINI,
GEORGE, DUFFY AND HASAY, MARCH 14, 1984

ADOPTED, MARCH 14, 1984

A RESOLUTION

1 Requesting the Governor to declare a state of emergency in
2 response to the severe outbreak of giardiasis in several
3 regions of the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania.

4 WHEREAS, A severe outbreak of giardiasis, a waterborne
5 parasitic disease, which affects the gastro-intestinal tract of
6 humans, has, within the last five months, spread throughout the
7 Commonwealth with substantial occurrences of the disease, with
8 the potential of infecting in excess of 500,000 people, reported
9 in the counties of Allegheny, Clearfield, Lackawanna, Luzerne
10 and McKean; and

11 WHEREAS, This severe outbreak of giardiasis has caused great
12 physiological stress and physical discomfort and inconvenience
13 for the residents of those counties who are:

14 (1) required to boil water to obtain pure water for
15 consumption;

16 (2) travel throughout the various communities to obtain
17 pure water from public sources or purchase pure bottled water
18 from outside sources;

1 (3) to consult with physicians; and

2 (4) expend sums of money to obtain medicine and medical
3 treatment; and

4 WHEREAS, The municipalities within these counties, in an
5 attempt to assist their residents, have expended large sums of
6 money to cope with this emergency and secure on an ongoing
7 basis, a supply of pure water for consumption; and

8 WHEREAS, The likelihood of this parasitic disease
9 disappearing in the immediate future is extremely slim;
10 therefore be it

11 RESOLVED, That the House of Representatives respectfully
12 request the Governor to declare the existence of a state of
13 emergency in those counties affected by the giardiasis outbreak
14 and direct the Pennsylvania Emergency Management Agency in
15 cooperation with the Departments of Environmental Resources and
16 Health to assist the various municipalities; determine the
17 extent of the problem; obtain pure water supply sources and
18 implement such long term solutions as are necessary to end
19 permanently the occurrence of giardiasis; and be it further

20 RESOLVED, That this resolution, upon passage, be immediately
21 transmitted to the Honorable Richard Thornburgh, Governor of
22 Pennsylvania.