
THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF PENNSYLVANIA

HOUSE RESOLUTION

No. 349 Session of
2009

INTRODUCED BY WATERS, BROWN, PALLONE, YOUNGBLOOD, KIRKLAND,
BEYER, BRENNAN, CALTAGIRONE, DIGIROLAMO, DONATUCCI, GEIST,
GEORGE, GOODMAN, HARKINS, HENNESSEY, KORTZ, MUNDY, SCAVELLO,
SIPTROTH AND VULAKOVICH, JUNE 10, 2009

INTRODUCED AS NONCONTROVERSIAL RESOLUTION UNDER RULE 35, JUNE
10, 2009

A RESOLUTION

1 Designating the week of June 21 through 27, 2009, as
2 "Rubbernecking Awareness Week" in Pennsylvania.

3 WHEREAS, Sixteen percent of all traffic accidents are caused
4 by rubbernecking, making it the leading cause of traffic
5 accidents; and

6 WHEREAS, Rubbernecking is defined as paying attention with
7 exaggerated curiosity to an event or scene out of the pathway of
8 the driver and thus being diverted from the task of defensive
9 and safe driving; and

10 WHEREAS, Common driver distractions that cause rubbernecking
11 are a crash or other roadside incident, another vehicle or an
12 attractive man or woman; and

13 WHEREAS, In a study and report for the Center for
14 Transportation Studies at the University of Virginia, authors
15 Jonathan P. Masinick and Dr. Hualiang Teng concluded from their
16 accumulated data that "rubbernecking is a major problem in

1 highway systems throughout the United States"; and

2 WHEREAS, Pennsylvania is 44,820 square miles in size and has
3 more than 118,000 miles of highway; and

4 WHEREAS, It is safe to assume that rubbernecking on
5 Pennsylvania highways is a problem that needs to be recognized;
6 therefore be it

7 RESOLVED, That the House of Representatives designate the
8 week of June 21 through 27, 2009, as "Rubbernecking Awareness
9 Week" in Pennsylvania.