
THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF PENNSYLVANIA

HOUSE RESOLUTION

No. 260 Session of
2007

INTRODUCED BY GEORGE, ADOLPH, BEYER, BUXTON, CALTAGIRONE, CAPPELLI, COHEN, CURRY, DALEY, DePASQUALE, DONATUCCI, EVERETT, FAIRCHILD, FRANKEL, GEIST, GIBBONS, GRUCELA, HENNESSEY, HESS, HUTCHINSON, JAMES, MAJOR, MANN, MANTZ, McILHATTAN, MILLARD, MILNE, MURT, M. O'BRIEN, PAYNE, PETRONE, PHILLIPS, RAMALEY, RAPP, REED, ROSS, RUBLEY, SAINATO, SANTONI, SCAVELLO, SOLOBAY, STABACK, SURRA, R. TAYLOR, THOMAS, VEREB, WALKO, J. WHITE, WOJNAROSKI, GINGRICH, CONKLIN, BELFANTI, KORTZ AND KULA, MAY 4, 2007

INTRODUCED AS NONCONTROVERSIAL RESOLUTION UNDER RULE 35,
MAY 4, 2007

A RESOLUTION

1 Celebrating the 10th anniversary of the Pennsylvania Senior
2 Environment Corps and designating the month of May 2007 as
3 "Pennsylvania Senior Environment Corps Month."

4 WHEREAS, The Pennsylvania Senior Environment Corps was
5 founded in May 1997 as the first Statewide program of its kind
6 in the United States to give seniors a meaningful opportunity to
7 help monitor and protect water quality and to share their
8 concern for and knowledge of the environment with others,
9 especially younger generations; and

10 WHEREAS, The Pennsylvania Senior Environment Corps has grown
11 from just under 200 volunteers in 1997 to more than 2,900
12 members throughout this Commonwealth; and

13 WHEREAS, Volunteers with the Pennsylvania Senior Environment
14 Corps have taken the initiative to go through special training

1 and have been provided the equipment to monitor water quality in
2 52 counties; and

3 WHEREAS, Members of the Pennsylvania Senior Environment Corps
4 now monitor water quality at 628 sites throughout this
5 Commonwealth and have generated more than 469,000 units of water
6 quality data over the last ten years using a quality assurance
7 plan officially accepted by the Department of Environmental
8 Protection and the United States Environmental Protection
9 Agency; and

10 WHEREAS, The Pennsylvania Senior Environment Corps created
11 the first Internet-based water quality testing result database
12 allowing citizen monitoring groups to post water sample results
13 and retrieve them for analysis; and

14 WHEREAS, Pennsylvania Senior Environment Corps members
15 contribute more than 37,400 volunteer hours annually to conduct
16 water sampling and to educate the public and youths about water
17 quality and other issues contributing the equivalent of more
18 than \$8 million worth of volunteer time during the corps' ten-
19 year history; and

20 WHEREAS, Volunteers with the Pennsylvania Senior Environment
21 Corps have expanded their activities to include mentoring high
22 school students for Envirothon competitions, locating and
23 marking more than 600 abandoned oil and gas wells, educating the
24 public on how to protect local drinking water supplies and on
25 the proper disposal of household hazardous waste, clearing
26 invasive species from watersheds, photodocumenting the results
27 and progress of abandoned mine reclamation projects and
28 educating the public on West Nile virus and dangers of radon in
29 homes; and

30 WHEREAS, The Pennsylvania Senior Environment Corps Program

1 was recognized by the United Nations Environment Programme on
2 its Global 500 Honour Roll for the program's contribution to
3 protecting the environment, joining the work of individuals like
4 Jacques Cousteau and Jane Goodall; and

5 WHEREAS, The Pennsylvania Senior Environment Corps was
6 recognized by the President's Council on Sustainable Development
7 and Renew America as an outstanding example of community
8 participation; and

9 WHEREAS, Members of local chapters of the Pennsylvania Senior
10 Environment Corps have received numerous honors and recognition
11 from county governments, watershed groups and other
12 organizations; therefore be it

13 RESOLVED, That the House of Representatives congratulate
14 members of the Pennsylvania Senior Environment Corps for their
15 volunteer efforts to protect and monitor water quality in this
16 Commonwealth's rivers and streams; and be it further

17 RESOLVED, That the House of Representatives honor members of
18 the Pennsylvania Senior Environment Corps for their initiative
19 in educating the public and young people about the environment
20 and protecting our water, air and land from harm; and be it
21 further

22 RESOLVED, That the House of Representatives designate the
23 month of May 2007 as "Pennsylvania Senior Environment Corps
24 Month" in recognition of the valuable service Pennsylvania
25 Senior Environment Corps volunteers perform for the citizens and
26 the environment of this Commonwealth.