

THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF PENNSYLVANIA

HOUSE RESOLUTION

No. 900 Session of 2012

INTRODUCED BY KAVULICH, QUINN, GOODMAN, SAYLOR, DONATUCCI, ADOLPH, BAKER, BEAR, BOBACK, K. BOYLE, BRENNAN, BROOKS, V. BROWN, BURNS, CALTAGIRONE, CLYMER, COHEN, D. COSTA, COX, CULVER, CUTLER, DALEY, DEASY, DENLINGER, DIGIROLAMO, EVERETT, FABRIZIO, FLECK, FRANKEL, GEIST, GEORGE, GIBBONS, GROVE, HAHN, HARHAI, HARKINS, HENNESSEY, HESS, HORNAMAN, JAMES, KIRKLAND, KNOWLES, KORTZ, KULA, LONGIETTI, MAHONEY, MAJOR, MANN, MARSHALL, MCGEEHAN, MICOZZIE, MILLARD, MILNE, MIRABITO, MOUL, MUSTIO, NEILSON, NEUMAN, M. O'BRIEN, O'NEILL, PASHINSKI, PAYNE, READSHAW, ROCK, ROSS, SAINATO, SANTARSIERO, SANTONI, SCAVELLO, SONNEY, STABACK, SWANGER, TALLMAN, THOMAS, TOEPEL, TOOHIL AND YOUNGBLOOD, OCTOBER 3, 2012

INTRODUCED AS NONCONTROVERSIAL RESOLUTION UNDER RULE 35, OCTOBER 3, 2012

A RESOLUTION

1 Designating October 7, 2012, as "National Fallen Firefighters
2 Memorial Service Day" in Pennsylvania.

3 WHEREAS, The United States Congress and the President of the
4 United States have designated the day of the annual National
5 Fallen Firefighters Memorial Service as a day to honor
6 firefighters and emergency services personnel who have
7 sacrificed their lives to save others; and

8 WHEREAS, The Federal Government commemorates the day and
9 remembers those firefighters who have given their lives to
10 protect life and property in these United States by lowering the
11 American flag on all Federal buildings to half-staff; and

12 WHEREAS, The Commonwealth of Pennsylvania should formally

1 join in recognizing firefighters who have paid the ultimate
2 sacrifice in this Commonwealth in responding to protect the
3 lives, homes, property and community of their fellow citizens;
4 and

5 WHEREAS, Fire departments, churches and other organizations
6 across the nation commemorate the National Fallen Firefighters
7 Memorial Service by participating in the second annual Bells
8 Across America effort or by sponsoring their own memorial
9 services or other commemorations over the weekend of October 6
10 and 7 that include having a moment of remembrance and the
11 ringing of bells to honor those who have served communities as
12 firefighters; and

13 WHEREAS, Approximately 100 firefighters and emergency
14 personnel courageously make the ultimate sacrifice in the line
15 of duty each year; and

16 WHEREAS, A total of 85 firefighters and emergency personnel
17 from across the nation, including five from Pennsylvania, will
18 be specifically remembered during the roll call at the National
19 Fallen Firefighters Memorial Service on October 7, 2012, because
20 they had lost their lives in the line of duty in 2011; and

21 WHEREAS, The five firefighters and emergency services
22 personnel from Pennsylvania who will be honored at the National
23 Fallen Firefighters Memorial Service will be: Christian D.
24 Beaston, Jr., of the Hellam Fire Company, Derek Kozorosky of the
25 United States Air Force, Kadena Air Force Base in Okinawa,
26 Japan, John J. Lackovic, Jr., of the Valley Forge Volunteer Fire
27 Company; Keith J. Rankin of the Lancaster Township Fire
28 Department and Edward N. Steffy of the Rothsville Volunteer Fire
29 Company; and

30 WHEREAS, The events of September 11, 2001, brought national

1 attention to the duties, responsibilities, hazards and
2 sacrifices faced by fire and emergency services personnel on a
3 daily basis; and

4 WHEREAS, People have come to more fully appreciate the
5 essential role that firefighters and other emergency personnel
6 play in the protection of lives and property in communities
7 within this Commonwealth; and

8 WHEREAS, Most firefighters serve as volunteers and give their
9 time, efforts and talents to not only protecting homes,
10 businesses, churches and properties, but making efforts on an
11 almost daily basis to raise money to pay for training, equipment
12 and other expenses in operating local fire companies; and

13 WHEREAS, The National Memorial Service marks the beginning of
14 the annual Fire Prevention Week observance aimed at reducing
15 deaths, injuries and property losses from fire, and it is of
16 major importance for all communities to increase their efforts
17 to reduce deaths, injuries and property losses from fire;
18 therefore be it

19 RESOLVED, That the House of Representatives designate October
20 7, 2012, as "National Fallen Firefighters Memorial Service Day"
21 in Pennsylvania; and be it further

22 RESOLVED, That the House of Representatives honor those
23 firefighters and emergency services personnel from Pennsylvania
24 who gave their lives in 2011: Christian D. Beaston, Jr., of the
25 Hellam Fire Company, Derek Kozorosky of the United States Air
26 Force, Kadena Air Force Base in Okinawa, Japan, John J.
27 Lackovic, Jr., of the Valley Forge Volunteer Fire Company, Keith
28 J. Rankin of the Lancaster Township Fire Department and Edward
29 N. Steffy of the Rothsville Volunteer Fire Company and express
30 condolences to members of their fire companies and departments

1 as well as their families, loved ones and friends for their loss
2 and sacrifice; and be it further

3 RESOLVED, That the House of Representatives congratulate all
4 fire departments, companies, municipalities and other
5 organizations that organize memorial services and other special
6 events to commemorate National Fallen Firefighters Memorial
7 Service Day and urge all residents to participate in such events
8 to remember and thank all fire and emergency services personnel
9 who have served their communities.