

THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF PENNSYLVANIA

HOUSE RESOLUTION

No. 341 Session of
2017

INTRODUCED BY FARRY, D. COSTA, MACKENZIE, HENNESSEY, PASHINSKI,
TOOHIL, DRISCOLL, DONATUCCI, BIZZARRO, DUSH, SONNEY, BAKER,
SCHLOSSBERG, WATSON, SAINATO, ROZZI, MILLARD, McNEILL,
CALTAGIRONE, WARD, LONGIETTI, SCHWEYER, READSHAW, DiGIROLAMO,
O'NEILL, NEILSON, DeLUCA, MARSICO AND HILL-EVANS,
MAY 18, 2017

INTRODUCED AS NONCONTROVERSIAL RESOLUTION UNDER RULE 35,
MAY 18, 2017

A RESOLUTION

1 Designating the week of May 22 through 28, 2017, as
2 "Pennsylvania Arson Dogs Appreciation Week" in Pennsylvania
3 and honoring all fire and law enforcement investigative
4 agencies for their dedicated and tireless service.

5 WHEREAS, The National Fire Protection Association estimates
6 42,000 intentionally set structure fires occurred in 2014 and
7 2015, resulting in a combined 362 civilian deaths and a total of
8 \$1.07 billion in property damage; and

9 WHEREAS, According to the Federal Bureau of Investigation,
10 there were 44,376 arson cases reported with an average dollar
11 loss of \$14,182 per incident in 2015; and

12 WHEREAS, An accelerant detection canine, arson dog, is a dog
13 trained to sniff out minute traces of accelerants that may have
14 been used to start a fire; and

15 WHEREAS, Arson dogs go through extensive training before
16 becoming certified accelerant detection canines; and

1 WHEREAS, Each arson dog is part of a team that is comprised
2 of the canine and its handler, a law enforcement officer trained
3 to investigate fire scenes; and

4 WHEREAS, Not only are these teams trained to investigate the
5 causes of fires, they are responsible for providing community
6 outreach programs and educational seminars on fire prevention
7 and safety; and

8 WHEREAS, An arson dog saves time and money by using fewer but
9 more accurate evidence samples, reducing expenditures at the
10 lab, speeding up investigations and providing a higher
11 conviction rate; and

12 WHEREAS, Arson dogs can smell more than 100 times better than
13 humans and are trained to sniff out more than 60 ignitable
14 petroleum-based hydrocarbons; and

15 WHEREAS, The House of Representatives pays tribute to the
16 contribution arson dogs make to fire departments, law
17 enforcement agencies and communities in the conduct of public
18 service and safety missions; therefore be it

19 RESOLVED, That the House of Representatives designate the
20 week of May 22 through 28, 2017, as "Pennsylvania Arson Dogs
21 Appreciation Week" in Pennsylvania and honor all fire and law
22 enforcement investigative agencies for their dedicated and
23 tireless service.