
THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF PENNSYLVANIA

HOUSE RESOLUTION

No. 98 Session of 2021

INTRODUCED BY JOZWIAK, WHITE, PICKETT, BOBACK, MILLARD, HILL-
EVANS, KAUFFMAN, SAINATO, HARKINS, ZABEL, KNOWLES, METZGAR,
BROOKS, McNEILL, COOK, T. DAVIS, COX, ROZZI, SCHMITT, JAMES,
RYAN, PEIFER, POLINCHOCK, SCHLEGEL CULVER, DAVANZO, MENTZER,
R. MACKENZIE, SAYLOR, PENNYCUICK, MARSHALL, DRISCOLL,
ZIMMERMAN, MOUL, CIRESI, THOMAS, HAMM, STEPHENS, SMITH,
DELLOSO, DeLUCA, LONGIETTI, OBERLANDER, CAUSER AND STRUZZI,
MAY 7, 2021

REFERRED TO COMMITTEE ON JUDICIARY, MAY 7, 2021

A RESOLUTION

1 Honoring the lives and service of peace officers who lost their
2 lives in the line of duty in the year 2020 and extending
3 condolences to their families and friends.

4 WHEREAS, 36 U.S.C. § 136 authorizes the President of the
5 United States to designate May 15 of each year as "Peace
6 Officers Memorial Day" in honor of Federal, state and local
7 officers killed or disabled in the line of duty; and

8 WHEREAS, 36 U.S.C. § 137 authorizes the President of the
9 United States to designate the calendar week in which May 15
10 occurs as "Police Week"; and

11 WHEREAS, On May 4, 1963, President John F. Kennedy, by
12 proclamation, designated May 15 of each year as "Peace Officers
13 Memorial Day" and the week in which May 15 occurs as "Police
14 Week" for 1963 and each succeeding calendar year; and

15 WHEREAS, In 1998, the Congress of the United States reenacted

1 36 U.S.C. §§ 136 and 137 as part of the Patriotic and National
2 Observances Codification; and

3 WHEREAS, Each year across the United States, May 15 is
4 recognized as "Peace Officers Memorial Day," and the week it
5 occurs in is recognized as "Police Week"; and

6 WHEREAS, During the 2020 calendar year, 12 peace officers in
7 this Commonwealth died in the line of duty; and

8 WHEREAS, On January 2, 2020, Police Officer Michael L. Henry,
9 Jr., died from complications sustained in a motorcycle accident
10 while participating in an annual training course; and

11 WHEREAS, Officer Henry was a 25-year veteran of the Derry
12 Township Police Department and a United States Army veteran; and

13 WHEREAS, On March 13, 2020, Sergeant James R. O'Connor, IV,
14 was shot and killed while apprehending a homicide suspect; and

15 WHEREAS, Sergeant O'Connor was a 23-year veteran of the
16 Philadelphia Police Department and a 15-year member of the SWAT
17 team; and

18 WHEREAS, On April 5, 2020, Captain James Walker died from
19 complications of COVID-19 after presumably contracting the virus
20 while on duty; and

21 WHEREAS, Captain Walker served 32 years with the Philadelphia
22 Police Department; and

23 WHEREAS, On April 11, 2020, Chief of Police Robert William
24 Sealock succumbed to complications of an asthma attack following
25 the foot pursuit of a wanted subject; and

26 WHEREAS, Chief Sealock was a United States Navy veteran and
27 served 23 years with the Aliquippa City Police Department; and

28 WHEREAS, On April 12, 2020, Interim Police Chief Mark J.
29 Romutis died from complications of COVID-19 after contracting
30 the virus while on duty; and

1 WHEREAS, Chief Romutis enjoyed a 43-year career in law
2 enforcement culminating in becoming Interim Police Chief of the
3 Ambridge Borough Police Department; and

4 WHEREAS, Chief Romutis also served with the Upper St. Clair
5 Township Police Department, Pittsburgh Police Department and
6 Ellwood City Police Department; and

7 WHEREAS, On June 3, 2020, Sergeant Jose Manuel Nova died from
8 complications of COVID-19 after presumably contracting the virus
9 while on duty; and

10 WHEREAS, Sergeant Nova was a 27-year veteran of the
11 Philadelphia Police Department, assigned to the 9th Police
12 District; and

13 WHEREAS, On June 6, 2020, Park Ranger Thomas E. Booz died
14 from complications of COVID-19 after presumably contracting the
15 virus while on duty; and

16 WHEREAS, Park Ranger Booz served as a park ranger with the
17 Bucks County Department of Parks and Recreation for 32 years;
18 and

19 WHEREAS, On June 13, 2020, Police Officer Dale Thomas
20 Provins, Jr., succumbed to injuries sustained when his patrol
21 vehicle was struck head-on by an intoxicated driver; and

22 WHEREAS, Officer Provins was a 15-year veteran of the
23 Jefferson Hills Borough Police Department; and

24 WHEREAS, Officer Provins was a United States Marine Corps and
25 Pennsylvania Army National Guard veteran who served in Operation
26 Desert Storm and Operation Desert Shield; and

27 WHEREAS, On November 23, 2020, Police Officer Tab Ali died
28 from complications of COVID-19 after presumably contracting the
29 virus while on duty; and

30 WHEREAS, Officer Ali was a 25-year veteran of the

1 Philadelphia Police Department, assigned to the 5th Police
2 District; and

3 WHEREAS, On November 28, 2020, Deputy Sheriff John J. "Sonny"
4 Kuhar, Jr., died from complications of COVID-19 after presumably
5 contracting the virus while on duty; and

6 WHEREAS, Deputy Sheriff Kuhar enjoyed a career in law
7 enforcement that spanned 60 years; and

8 WHEREAS, Deputy Sheriff Kuhar served with the Vintondale
9 Borough Police Department, Nanty Glo Borough Police Department,
10 Blacklick Township Police Department and Cambria County
11 Sheriff's Office; and

12 WHEREAS, On December 3, 2020, Captain Frank R. Milillo, Sr.,
13 died from complications of COVID-19 after presumably contracting
14 the virus while on duty; and

15 WHEREAS, Captain Milillo served with the Philadelphia Police
16 Department for 31 years and commanded the Southwest Detective
17 Division; and

18 WHEREAS, On December 23, 2020, Sergeant Joseph M. Youse died
19 from complications of COVID-19 after presumably contracting the
20 virus while on duty; and

21 WHEREAS, Sergeant Youse served with the Philadelphia Police
22 Department for 39 years; and

23 WHEREAS, The bravery and selflessness demonstrated by the
24 fallen officers is exemplary and displays the service and
25 sacrifice of those who are tasked with protecting individuals
26 and institutions of democracy; therefore be it

27 RESOLVED, That the House of Representatives honor the lives
28 and service of peace officers who recently lost their lives in
29 the line of duty in the year 2020 and extend condolences to
30 their families and friends.