
THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF PENNSYLVANIA

SENATE RESOLUTION

No. 168 Session of
2023

INTRODUCED BY DILLON, FARRY, TARTAGLIONE, FONTANA, KANE AND
BREWSTER, SEPTEMBER 29, 2023

REFERRED TO VETERANS AFFAIRS AND EMERGENCY PREPAREDNESS,
SEPTEMBER 29, 2023

A CONCURRENT RESOLUTION

1 Extending in whole until March 1, 2024, the disaster emergency
2 declared on June 12, 2023, in response to the collapse of the
3 northbound bridge and severe compromise of the southbound
4 bridge on Interstate 95 in the City of Philadelphia,
5 Philadelphia County.

6 WHEREAS, On June 12, 2023, the Governor issued a proclamation
7 declaring a disaster emergency in response to the collapse of
8 the northbound bridge and severe compromise of the southbound
9 bridge on Interstate 95 in the City of Philadelphia,
10 Philadelphia County; and

11 WHEREAS, On June 11, 2023, a tanker truck fire erupted
12 underneath a northbound and southbound bridge on Interstate 95
13 in the City of Philadelphia, Philadelphia County; and

14 WHEREAS, The fire led to the collapse of the northbound
15 bridge and severe compromise of the southbound bridge; and

16 WHEREAS, The subsequent closing of the northbound and
17 southbound lanes of Interstate 95 has created serious disruption
18 to transportation and commerce; and

19 WHEREAS, In addition to the economic impacts, there is

1 concern for the public safety and well-being of individuals in
2 the vicinity of the incident; and

3 WHEREAS, The City of Philadelphia and surrounding political
4 subdivisions continue to experience adverse impacts, including
5 ongoing traffic disruption in and around the scene of the
6 incident; and

7 WHEREAS, These adverse impacts are of such magnitude or
8 severity as to render essential the Commonwealth's
9 supplementation of county and municipal efforts and resources
10 and the activation of all applicable State, county and municipal
11 emergency response plans; and

12 WHEREAS, It is necessary to take immediate steps to provide
13 for the reopening of the northbound and southbound lanes on
14 Interstate 95 and to repair or reconstruct the bridges; and

15 WHEREAS, Recovery and rebuilding efforts in response to the
16 damage caused by the incident remain ongoing; and

17 WHEREAS, Extending the disaster declaration will ensure that
18 the Commonwealth is eligible to receive emergency relief funding
19 from the Federal Government to assist the Commonwealth recovery
20 and rebuilding activities related to the collapse of the
21 northbound bridge and severe compromise of the southbound bridge
22 on Interstate 95; and

23 WHEREAS, On June 28, 2023, the Senate unanimously adopted
24 Senate Resolution 136, which extended the disaster declaration
25 until November 1, 2023, and on June 30, 2023, the House of
26 Representatives unanimously concurred in the resolution; and

27 WHEREAS, The disaster declaration needs to be extended until
28 March 1, 2024; therefore be it

29 RESOLVED (the House of Representatives concurring), That the
30 General Assembly, in accordance with section 20(c) of Article IV

1 of the Constitution of Pennsylvania, extend in whole until March
2 1, 2024, the disaster emergency declared on June 12, 2023, in
3 response to the collapse of the northbound bridge and severe
4 compromise of the southbound bridge on Interstate 95 in the City
5 of Philadelphia, Philadelphia County, except as terminated or
6 extended, in whole or in part, by the General Assembly; and be
7 it further

8 RESOLVED, That, upon adoption of this concurrent resolution
9 by both chambers of the General Assembly, the Secretary of the
10 Senate and the Chief Clerk of the House of Representatives be
11 directed to notify the Governor of the General Assembly's
12 action; and be it further

13 RESOLVED, That the Secretary of the Senate and the Chief
14 Clerk of the House of Representatives be directed to transmit
15 this concurrent resolution to the Legislative Reference Bureau
16 for publication in the next available issue of the Pennsylvania
17 Bulletin as specified under 45 Pa.C.S. § 725(a)(4).