

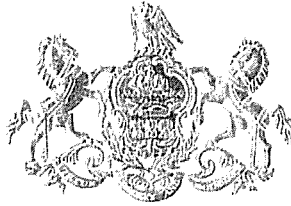
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Senate of Pennsylvania

April 17, 2012

APR 17 2012

MEMORANDUM

TO: All Senators

FROM:  Senator Lisa Baker

SUBJECT: "National Guard Day" in Pennsylvania

Please join me in co-sponsoring a resolution designating May 1, 2012 as "National Guard Day" in Pennsylvania. It also commemorates the 257th anniversary of our Commonwealth's first militia laws.

Pennsylvania's 19,000-member National Guard is one of the largest and most deployed Guard forces in the nation. As a testament to its professionalism, our Guard is the only National Guard to host a Stryker Brigade, built around one of the industry's most powerful armored vehicles.

The Pennsylvania General Assembly passed the Commonwealth's first laws providing for a militia in 1755. This volunteer militia has since evolved into today's modern, professional National Guard. These citizen-soldiers have taken part in every major military conflict the country has faced since the Revolutionary War, and have been a vital part of peacekeeping missions, flood response and recovery, and many other significant domestic and international operations.

A total of 39 Pennsylvania National Guard members have been killed in action in Iraq and Afghanistan.

This resolution is similar to SR 139 of 2011, which was co-sponsored by nearly every member of the Senate and adopted in June.

If you wish to co-sponsor this proposal, please contact Liz Clancy at LClancy@psen.gov or by phone at 787-7428.

Thank you.