

A RESOLUTION

1 Designating the month of September 2012 as "Emergency
2 Preparedness Month" in Pennsylvania.

3 WHEREAS, Each year, disaster strikes communities across the
4 world, causing individuals to flee their homes, often with very
5 little advance warning; and

6 WHEREAS, Thousands of Americans are displaced by disasters
7 every year, many of them elderly and infirm; and

8 WHEREAS, Each year, the President proclaims September as
9 "National Emergency Preparedness Month" to stress the importance
10 of strengthening the security and resiliency of the nation
11 through systematic preparation for the full range of hazards
12 threatening the United States in the 21st century, including
13 natural disasters, cyber attacks, pandemic disease and acts of
14 terrorism; and

15 WHEREAS, Each year, the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania and its
16 communities participate and observe September as Emergency
17 Preparedness Month in Pennsylvania to ensure that residents and
18 the townships, boroughs, cities and counties in which they live
19 take the steps necessary to be ready for any disaster, natural

1 or manmade; and

2 WHEREAS, Each year, in communities large and small, victims
3 of disasters and emergencies in Pennsylvania and across the
4 United States turn to neighbors, familiar and new, for help
5 through the American Red Cross, the Salvation Army, local fire
6 departments, police departments, ambulance and paramedic
7 services, military bases, hospitals, urban search and rescue
8 units, wilderness search and rescue groups, canine rescue units,
9 dive teams, county 911 coordinators and staff, county hazardous
10 material teams, local emergency management coordinators and
11 staff, county emergency management coordinators and staff,
12 Medevac agencies, State Police troops, Civil Air patrols, ham
13 radio operators, National Guard personnel, local fire police and
14 many other paid staff and volunteers with various governmental
15 entities, nonprofit agencies and other groups; and

16 WHEREAS, Disasters come in many forms, from natural disasters
17 like hurricanes, tornadoes or even manmade attacks like those of
18 eleven years ago that occurred on September 11, 2001; and

19 WHEREAS, The Federal Emergency Management Agency encourages
20 individuals to have emergency preparedness kits on hand should
21 disaster strike and provides information through its website,
22 www.ready.gov, to educate residents on how to prepare for
23 emergencies and disasters; and

24 WHEREAS, The Pennsylvania Emergency Management Agency does
25 its part to also assist Commonwealth residents in becoming well-
26 prepared for any disaster or emergency through its website,
27 www.readypa.org; and

28 WHEREAS, Designating September as Emergency Preparedness
29 Month in Pennsylvania can help empower Commonwealth residents by
30 providing information about the risks all residents can face and

1 the concrete actions they can take to protect themselves, their
2 families, their communities, their Commonwealth and their
3 country; therefore be it

4 RESOLVED, That the House of Representatives designate the
5 month of September 2012 as "Emergency Preparedness Month" in
6 Pennsylvania and extend its thanks to the many paid staff and
7 volunteers who serve this Commonwealth and our nation through
8 emergency preparedness efforts to assist and protect residents
9 during emergencies and disasters, natural and manmade; and be it
10 further

11 RESOLVED, That the House of Representatives urge all residents
12 to observe September as "Emergency Preparedness Month" in
13 Pennsylvania and inform themselves by visiting the www.ready.gov
14 and www.readypa.org websites and through other resources on ways
15 they can become fully prepared for all emergencies.