
THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF PENNSYLVANIA

SENATE RESOLUTION

No. 40

Session of
2001

INTRODUCED BY JUBELIRER, HELFRICK, PICCOLA AND HUGHES,
MARCH 14, 2001

INTRODUCED AND ADOPTED, MARCH 14, 2001

A RESOLUTION

1 Declaring the week of March 18 through 24, 2001, as "Poison
2 Prevention Week" in Pennsylvania.

3 WHEREAS, The health and safety of this Commonwealth's
4 citizens, especially our children, is an omnipresent and
5 pressing concern; and

6 WHEREAS, More than 7 million accidental poisonings occur each
7 year in the United States; and

8 WHEREAS, Of these accidental poisonings, 90% occur in the
9 home, with 60% involving children under six years of age; and

10 WHEREAS, Many of these poisonings could be avoided through
11 education and simple safety precautions; and

12 WHEREAS, The poison control centers serving this Commonwealth
13 give immediate information and treatment advice from toxicology
14 professionals regarding suspected toxic exposures to drugs,
15 chemicals and plants; and

16 WHEREAS, These poison control centers provide services 24
17 hours a day, seven days a week, 365 days a year; and

1 WHEREAS, These poison control centers have managed 130,000
2 poison exposure calls and have provided information for an
3 additional 47,000 callers; and

4 WHEREAS, These poison control centers provide services that
5 allow for 75% of poison exposures to be treated in the home,
6 avoiding unnecessary hospital emergency room costs; and

7 WHEREAS, It has been estimated that the poison control
8 centers save \$26 million annually in emergency health care costs
9 in this Commonwealth, with an estimated savings of \$5 million to
10 the Medicaid program and \$18 million to private insurers;
11 therefore be it

12 RESOLVED, That the Senate declare the week of March 18
13 through 24, 2001, as "Poison Prevention Week" in Pennsylvania
14 and express appreciation to the poison control centers in this
15 Commonwealth for their efforts to promote the reduction of
16 morbidity and mortality from poisonings through the
17 dissemination of poison information and treatment advice, public
18 and professional education and scientific research.