
THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF PENNSYLVANIA

HOUSE RESOLUTION

No. 446 Session of
2005

INTRODUCED BY PETRONE, GEORGE, JAMES, HERMAN, PALLONE, TIGUE,
CALTAGIRONE, KOTIK, LEDERER, STERN, STABACK, COHEN, CRAHALLA,
GEIST, GERGELY, GOOD, GRUCELA, MANN, JOSEPHS, HESS, BELFANTI,
BEBKO-JONES, SCAVELLO, MARKOSEK, WANSACZ, FABRIZIO, MCGEEHAN,
HENNESSEY, GOODMAN, SIPTROTH, PISTELLA, READSHAW, FICHTER,
SOLOBAY, WILT, LESCOVITZ, SONNEY, YOUNGBLOOD AND FREEMAN,
SEPTEMBER 28, 2005

REFERRED TO COMMITTEE ON VETERANS AFFAIRS AND EMERGENCY
PREPAREDNESS, SEPTEMBER 28, 2005

A RESOLUTION

1 Urging the President and the Congress of the United States to
2 direct the Base Realignment and Closure Commission to
3 designate strategic unused military bases in each region of
4 the United States to be given to the Federal Emergency
5 Management Agency's (FEMA's) jurisdiction to be maintained
6 and used in an emergency such as Hurricane Katrina which
7 displaces large numbers of people.

8 WHEREAS, Hurricane Katrina has killed hundreds of Americans
9 and has left hundreds of thousands of people in New Orleans and
10 across the Gulf Coast homeless, without food or water, at risk
11 for disease and infection and without adequate aid; and

12 WHEREAS, All residents of New Orleans were mandated to
13 evacuate their homes and facilities as more than 80% of the city
14 was covered with floodwaters in the aftermath of the hurricane;
15 and

16 WHEREAS, Hurricane Katrina has created the largest number of
17 displaced Americans since the Dust Bowl of the 1930s or the end

1 of the Civil War in the 1860s; and

2 WHEREAS, Thousands of the victims of the Hurricane Katrina
3 disaster have been forced to move to the Astrodome in Houston,
4 Texas, which location has limited amenities and is currently
5 crowded; and

6 WHEREAS, There is an oversupply of military facilities, and
7 the Base Realignment and Closure Commission (BRAC) is presently
8 considering closing many military bases which would be used for
9 various purposes across the country; and

10 WHEREAS, There are military bases in the United States which
11 each have the capacity to house thousands of individuals and
12 families and the capability to provide food, shelter and other
13 basic needs for evacuees with minimal maintenance when the
14 facilities are otherwise not in use; therefore be it

15 RESOLVED, That the House of Representatives of the
16 Commonwealth of Pennsylvania urge the President and the Congress
17 of the United States to direct the Base Realignment and Closure
18 Commission to designate strategic unused military bases in each
19 region of the United States to be given to the Federal Emergency
20 Management Agency's (FEMA's) jurisdiction to be maintained and
21 used in an emergency such as Hurricane Katrina which displaces
22 large numbers of people; and be it further

23 RESOLVED, That copies of this resolution be transmitted to
24 the President of the United States, the presiding officers of
25 each house of Congress and to each member of Congress from
26 Pennsylvania.