THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF PENNSYLVANIA

SENATE RESOLUTION

No. 253

Session of 2008

INTRODUCED BY REGOLA, ROBBINS, FERLO, BRUBAKER, DINNIMAN, EICHELBERGER, FONTANA, RAFFERTY, WAUGH, C. WILLIAMS, ARMSTRONG, BAKER, BOSCOLA, BROWNE, ERICKSON, FOLMER, GORDNER, GREENLEAF, KASUNIC, KITCHEN, LAVALLE, LOGAN, MADIGAN, MUSTO, O'PAKE, ORIE, PIPPY, RHOADES, STACK, STOUT, TOMLINSON, WASHINGTON, D. WHITE, WONDERLING, WOZNIAK AND EARLL, MARCH 13, 2008

REFERRED TO LOCAL GOVERNMENT, MARCH 13, 2008

A RESOLUTION

- 1 Designating the week of April 14 through 18, 2008, as "Local
- 2 Government Week" and April 15, 2008, as "Local Government
- 3 Day" in Pennsylvania.
- 4 WHEREAS, Local government is the backbone of our democracy
- 5 and the bedrock of our political system; and
- 6 WHEREAS, More than 12 million Pennsylvania residents rely on
- 7 the services and facilities provided by local government,
- 8 ranging from the special purpose functions of counties, school
- 9 districts and municipal authorities in the areas of judicial
- 10 administration, social welfare, education and provision of water
- 11 and sewer services, to the more general purpose functions of
- 12 cities, boroughs, towns and townships, such as maintenance of
- 13 roads and streets, police and fire protection and enforcement of
- 14 ordinances and land use controls; and
- 15 WHEREAS, This rich tapestry of local government is
- 16 represented by the Commonwealth's 67 counties, 56 cities, 961

- 1 boroughs, 91 first class townships, 1,456 second class
- 2 townships, one town, 501 school districts and 1,534 active local
- 3 authorities and the thousands of hardworking citizen officials,
- 4 many of whom serve without reward, who staff these local
- 5 governments; and
- 6 WHEREAS, Pennsylvania's residents rely upon the dedication of
- 7 these local officials in meeting many of the residents' most
- 8 fundamental needs in nearly all facets of daily living; and
- 9 WHEREAS, The success of our local officials is a key element
- 10 in the overall quality of life; and
- 11 WHEREAS, Our local governments are a testimony to liberty,
- 12 freedom and the right to elected self-government; and
- 13 WHEREAS, Each year in Pennsylvania one week is set aside as
- 14 "Local Government Week"; and
- 15 WHEREAS, "Local Government Week" focuses attention on the
- 16 need for strong, independent and active local government in this
- 17 Commonwealth and recognizes the valuable contributions made by
- 18 residents serving their communities in public office; and
- 19 WHEREAS, Each year the Governor's Award for Local Government
- 20 Excellence is presented to municipalities recognizing the
- 21 creativity and accomplishments of local governments and
- 22 officials that continuously work to improve their communities
- 23 and meet the many challenges facing them; therefore be it
- 24 RESOLVED, That the Senate designate the week of April 14
- 25 through 18, 2008, as "Local Government Week" and April 15, 2008,
- 26 as "Local Government Day" in Pennsylvania; and be it further
- 27 RESOLVED, That the Senate commend and thank the
- 28 Commonwealth's local officials for their labor as the unsung
- 29 heroes of government.