

THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF PENNSYLVANIA

HOUSE RESOLUTION

No. 270 Session of 2009

INTRODUCED BY CONKLIN, BRENNAN, DONATUCCI, KIRKLAND, PICKETT, BURNS, PALLONE, GERGELY, SAINATO, STABACK, PAYTON, ROSS, PAYNE, GEORGE, CALTAGIRONE, FAIRCHILD, HELM, SCAVELLO, FREEMAN, SWANGER, WATSON, DALEY, PHILLIPS, MILLARD, FABRIZIO, GRUCELA, HANNA, READSHAW, MAHONEY, FLECK, SANTONI, VULAKOVICH, FRANKEL, SIPTROTH, KORTZ, TALLMAN, MAJOR, MOUL AND PASHINSKI, APRIL 28, 2009

INTRODUCED AS NONCONTROVERSIAL RESOLUTION UNDER RULE 35, APRIL 28, 2009

A RESOLUTION

1 Designating the week of May 3 through 9, 2009, as "National
2 County Government Week" in Pennsylvania.

3 WHEREAS, National County Government Week is designed to raise
4 public awareness and understanding about the roles and
5 responsibilities of the nation's counties to meet the needs of
6 the community; and

7 WHEREAS, During this week, county officials will initiate
8 outreach activities to assembled groups at high schools,
9 libraries, malls, shopping centers and colleges to educate
10 residents about county services and will meet with members of
11 the Congress of the United States to discuss county government;
12 and

13 WHEREAS, First held in 1991, National County Government Week
14 is sponsored annually by the National Association of Counties
15 (NACo), which is the only national organization that represents

1 county governments in the United States; and

2 WHEREAS, There are 67 counties in this Commonwealth and 3,068
3 counties nationwide serving 300 million Americans; and

4 WHEREAS, Pennsylvania counties serve a vital function in
5 providing law enforcement, judicial administration, corrections
6 and criminal justice programs; and

7 WHEREAS, Pennsylvania counties are involved in the conduct
8 and oversight of elections, which are the foundation of our
9 democracy; and

10 WHEREAS, To improve our communities, counties in this
11 Commonwealth are involved in regional and environmental planning
12 and economic development and may establish housing and
13 redevelopment authorities and conduct community development
14 programs; and

15 WHEREAS, Counties are involved in public health, as they
16 provide protective services for children and youth, mental
17 health and mental retardation programs and drug and alcohol
18 awareness programs and maintain hospitals and homes for the
19 aged; and

20 WHEREAS, Counties are responsible for real estate tax
21 assessment, are involved in solid waste disposal and may support
22 local libraries and community colleges; and

23 WHEREAS, Counties take seriously their responsibility to
24 protect and enhance the health, welfare and safety of their
25 residents in sensible and cost-effective ways; and

26 WHEREAS, Many county government initiatives and programs
27 involve the protection of valuable and vulnerable environmental
28 resources in communities; and

29 WHEREAS, This year's theme is "Greening Our Future," which
30 highlights initiatives by counties to become more energy

efficient and environmentally friendly, and which initiatives save taxpayer dollars and help to preserve the environment; and

WHEREAS, NACo's "Green Government Initiative" provides comprehensive resources for counties regarding matters that promote and protect the environment; and

WHEREAS, Such environmentally friendly initiatives include efforts involving alternative fuels and vehicles, climate protection and air quality, energy efficiency and green buildings, green economy and green jobs, land use, energy, purchasing and procurement, waste management and recycling and water quality; and

WHEREAS, The NACo Green Government Initiative serves as a catalyst between counties and the private sector to facilitate green practices, products and policies that result in both financial and environmental savings for county governments; therefore be it

RESOLVED, That the House of Representatives designate the week of May 3 through 9, 2009, as "National County Government Week" in Pennsylvania, and commend the counties in this Commonwealth for sponsoring events to help residents better understand how counties serve the community; and be it further

RESOLVED, That the House of Representatives commend the employees and members of the National Association of Counties for their work in increasing the public's awareness about counties and for their green-friendly initiatives that help counties become better partners in preserving and protecting the environment and better utilize taxpayer dollars; and be it further

RESOLVED, That the House of Representatives call on the citizens of this Commonwealth to participate in this week's

1 activities and encourage them to reflect upon the variety of
2 essential public services provided by the counties in this
3 Commonwealth and the nation; and be it further

4 RESOLVED, That a copy of this resolution be transmitted to
5 the National Association of Counties at this address: 25
6 Massachusetts Avenue, NW, Washington, DC 20001; and that a copy
7 be transmitted to: the County Commissioners Association of
8 Pennsylvania, P.O. Box 60769, Harrisburg, PA 17106-0769.