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THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF PENNSYLVANIA

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HOUSE RESOLUTION

No. 725 Session of  
2010

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INTRODUCED BY DRUCKER, FREEMAN, CREIGHTON, BELFANTI, BEYER, BISHOP, BRIGGS, BROOKS, CALTAGIRONE, D. COSTA, DALEY, DIGIROLAMO, DONATUCCI, EVERETT, FAIRCHILD, FLECK, GEIST, GEORGE, GOODMAN, GROVE, GRUCELA, HELM, HENNESSEY, HESS, HOUGHTON, KNOWLES, KULA, LONGIETTI, MAHONEY, MAJOR, MANN, MARKOSEK, MATZIE, McILVAINE SMITH, MELIO, MILLARD, MILNE, OBERLANDER, O'NEILL, PASHINSKI, PAYNE, PHILLIPS, PICKETT, READSHAW, SAINATO, SANTONI, SIPTROTH, STABACK, SWANGER, THOMAS, TRUE, VULAKOVICH, WATSON, WHITE AND YOUNGBLOOD, APRIL 7, 2010

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INTRODUCED AS NONCONTROVERSIAL RESOLUTION UNDER RULE 35, APRIL 7, 2010

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A RESOLUTION

1 Designating the week of April 11 through 17, 2010, as "Local  
2 Government Week" and April 15, 2010, as "Local Government  
3 Day" in Pennsylvania.

4 WHEREAS, Local government in Pennsylvania is a mosaic of more  
5 than 4,500 individual units with 67 counties, more than 50  
6 cities, nearly 1,500 townships of the second class, nearly 100  
7 townships of the first class, more than 950 boroughs, one  
8 incorporated town, 500 school districts and more than 1,500  
9 authorities; and

10 WHEREAS, In addition to county government, every single  
11 Pennsylvanian lives, works and plays within a local government;  
12 and

13 WHEREAS, While each unit is distinct and independent of the  
14 others, they all act in concert to improve the quality of life

1 of the more than 12 million residents of this Commonwealth; and  
2 WHEREAS, Pennsylvania local government is the epitome of a  
3 "grassroots" operation and most local government elected  
4 officials are ordinary citizens who choose to serve their  
5 community; and

6 WHEREAS, Government service is not their full-time profession  
7 or occupation; instead they may be farmers, doctors, steel  
8 workers, teachers or local business owners; and

9 WHEREAS, These dedicated individuals bring new ways of  
10 tackling old problems and fresh approaches to local government  
11 issues from other areas of their life and, through time and  
12 experience, develop expertise in both government administration  
13 and an intimate knowledge of the unique needs of their  
14 communities; and

15 WHEREAS, This "citizen-official" is the backbone of local  
16 government in Pennsylvania and local government is the  
17 foundation of the American system of democracy; and

18 WHEREAS, On a daily basis, they serve on the front lines of  
19 the vast majority of interactions between citizens and their  
20 government and are responsible for providing a staggering number  
21 of public services directly to Commonwealth residents; and

22 WHEREAS, The scope of these municipal functions and  
23 responsibilities is broad and includes, among other things,  
24 police protection, parking and traffic control, maintenance of  
25 local streets and roads, water supply, sewage collection and  
26 treatment, local planning and zoning, parks and recreation,  
27 garbage collection, health services, libraries, schools,  
28 licensing of businesses and code enforcement; and

29 WHEREAS, While local government elected officials are at the  
30 heart of community activity and in a unique position to get many

1 things done for their community, they also face a seemingly  
2 never ending list of duties, obligations, tough decisions and  
3 thankless jobs; and

4 WHEREAS, To help get the work done, local government elected  
5 officials rely heavily on local government professionals who  
6 have chosen to make local government their life work and without  
7 whom local governments could not exist in a modern community;  
8 and

9 WHEREAS, These professionals follow careers in fields such as  
10 city and regional planning, community development and housing,  
11 public health and hospital administration, parks and recreation,  
12 public welfare and community social work, library service,  
13 transportation and traffic control, finance, administration,  
14 engineering, law enforcement and legal services; and

15 WHEREAS, Together, local government elected officials and  
16 local government professionals make important decisions every  
17 day affecting the lives of every single one of us; and

18 WHEREAS, It is only fitting that each year we set aside one  
19 week as "Local Government Week" and one day as "Local Government  
20 Day" in this Commonwealth; and

21 WHEREAS, "Local Government Week" and "Local Government Day"  
22 focus attention on the need for these strong, independent and  
23 active local governments in Pennsylvania and officially  
24 recognize the many valuable contributions made by these citizens  
25 who serve their communities in public office; therefore be it

26 RESOLVED, That the House of Representatives designate the  
27 week of April 11 through 17, 2010, as "Local Government Week"  
28 and April 15, 2010, as "Local Government Day" in Pennsylvania.