
THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF PENNSYLVANIA

HOUSE RESOLUTION

No. 504 Session of
2011

INTRODUCED BY BAKER, EVERETT, HESS, MAJOR, METZGAR, PICKETT,
GEIST, STERN, KNOWLES AND CAUSER, NOVEMBER 17, 2011

INTRODUCED AS NONCONTROVERSIAL RESOLUTION UNDER RULE 35,
NOVEMBER 17, 2011

A RESOLUTION

1 Designating the week of November 13 through 19, 2011, as "Rural
2 Health Week" in Pennsylvania.

3 WHEREAS, Nearly one in five Americans lives in rural and
4 frontier areas, accounting for 80% of the total land area in
5 this nation but only providing for 20% of the population; and

6 WHEREAS, Forty-eight of the 67 counties in this Commonwealth
7 are predominantly rural and five counties are completely rural;
8 and

9 WHEREAS, Meeting the health care needs of rural residents is
10 a unique task as communities face accessibility issues, a lack
11 of health care providers, an aging population suffering from a
12 greater number of chronic conditions and larger percentages of
13 uninsured and underinsured citizens; and

14 WHEREAS, Rural hospitals are not only sources of innovation
15 and resourcefulness that reach beyond geographical boundaries to
16 deliver quality care, but have also been the economic foundation
17 of rural communities in this Commonwealth; and

1 WHEREAS, Supporting our rural hospitals, providers and
2 citizens is imperative to the overall health and welfare of this
3 Commonwealth; and

4 WHEREAS, The Department of Health has developed strategies to
5 address the needs and opportunities that occur within rural
6 communities; and

7 WHEREAS, The Office of Rural Health and the Pennsylvania
8 Rural Health Association play a distinct and critical role by
9 leading efforts to address the unique health care needs of our
10 rural citizens; and

11 WHEREAS, It is important for all citizens to recognize the
12 distinctive health care needs and opportunities that exist in
13 rural communities; therefore be it

14 RESOLVED, That the House of Representatives designate the
15 week of November 13 through 19, 2011, as "Rural Health Week" in
16 Pennsylvania.