
THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF PENNSYLVANIA

HOUSE RESOLUTION

No. 657 Session of
2012

INTRODUCED BY CONKLIN, BAKER, BOBACK, BRENNAN, BROOKS,
CALTAGIRONE, CLYMER, COHEN, D. COSTA, DEASY, DIGIROLAMO,
EVERETT, FABRIZIO, FLECK, FRANKEL, GEIST, GEORGE, GINGRICH,
GOODMAN, GRELL, GROVE, HARKINS, KORTZ, KULA, LONGIETTI,
MAHONEY, MAJOR, MANN, MATZIE, MICOZZIE, MILLARD, MURT,
MUSTIO, MYERS, OBERLANDER, M. O'BRIEN, O'NEILL, READSHAW,
ROCK, ROSS, SAINATO, SANTONI, SCAVELLO, SONNEY, STABACK,
SWANGER, TALLMAN, VEREB, VULAKOVICH, WATERS AND WATSON,
APRIL 2, 2012

INTRODUCED AS NONCONTROVERSIAL RESOLUTION UNDER RULE 35, APRIL
2, 2012

A RESOLUTION

1 Recognizing the month of April 2012 as "National County
2 Government Month" in Pennsylvania.

3 WHEREAS, National County Government Month serves 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 month, county officials will initiate
8 outreach activities to assemble 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 the needs and state
12 of affairs concerning county government; and

13 WHEREAS, First held in 1991 as National County Government
14 Week and later changed in 2010 to National County Government

1 Month, this observance is sponsored annually by the National
2 Association of Counties (NACo), which is the only national
3 organization that represents county governments in the United
4 States; and

5 WHEREAS, There are 67 counties in the Commonwealth of
6 Pennsylvania and 3,068 counties nationwide, serving 300 million
7 Americans; and

8 WHEREAS, Pennsylvania counties serve a vital function in
9 providing for health care, law enforcement, judicial
10 administration, corrections and criminal justice programs; and

11 WHEREAS, Pennsylvania counties are involved in the conduct
12 and oversight of elections, which are the foundation of our
13 democracy; and

14 WHEREAS, To improve Pennsylvania's communities, counties in
15 the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania are involved in regional and
16 environmental planning and economic development and may
17 establish housing and redevelopment authorities and conduct
18 community development programs; and

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

22 WHEREAS, Counties are directly involved in the dispensation
23 of public health care, as they provide protective services for
24 children and youth, mental health and mental retardation
25 programs and drug and alcohol awareness programs and maintain
26 hospitals and homes for the aged; and

27 WHEREAS, Counties embrace the responsibility of protecting
28 and enhancing the health, welfare and safety of residents in
29 sensible and cost-effective ways; and

30 WHEREAS, This year's theme is "Healthy Counties, Healthy

1 Families," which encourages counties to promote healthy living
2 and lifestyle choices in communities across the country; and

3 WHEREAS, In an effort to bolster this theme, NACo President
4 Lenny Eliason has adopted a "Healthy Counties" initiative, which
5 seeks to enhance public and private partnerships related to the
6 delivery of local health care services to improve the overall
7 quality of health care and assist counties in effectively
8 implementing Federal health care reform; therefore be it

9 RESOLVED, That the House of Representatives of the
10 Commonwealth of Pennsylvania recognize the month of April 2012
11 as "National County Government Month" in Pennsylvania and
12 commend the counties in the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania for
13 sponsoring events to help residents better understand how
14 counties serve the community; and be it further

15 RESOLVED, That the House of Representatives of the
16 Commonwealth of Pennsylvania commend the National Association of
17 Counties' Healthy Counties Advisory Board for its work in
18 increasing the public's awareness regarding the important and
19 extensive role that counties play in serving the health care
20 needs of its citizens; and be it further

21 RESOLVED, That the House of Representatives of the
22 Commonwealth of Pennsylvania call on the citizens of
23 Pennsylvania to participate in this month's activities and
24 encourage them to reflect upon the numerous essential public
25 health services provided by the counties in the Commonwealth of
26 Pennsylvania and the nation; and be it further

27 RESOLVED, That a copy of this resolution be transmitted to
28 the National Association of Counties, 25 Massachusetts Avenue,
29 NW, Washington, DC 20001; and that a copy be transmitted to the
30 County Commissioners Association of Pennsylvania, P.O. Box

1 60769, Harrisburg, PA 17106-0769.