

THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF PENNSYLVANIA

# SENATE RESOLUTION

No. 87 Session of  
2011

INTRODUCED BY FONTANA, KITCHEN, STACK, FERLO, ARGALL, RAFFERTY,  
KASUNIC, COSTA, BREWSTER, TARTAGLIONE, HUGHES, ERICKSON,  
ORIE, SOLOBAY, DINNIMAN, PILEGGI, FARNESE, SCHWANK, WAUGH,  
WASHINGTON, ALLOWAY AND LEACH, APRIL 12, 2011

INTRODUCED AND ADOPTED, APRIL 12, 2011

## A RESOLUTION

1 Recognizing the week of April 10 through 16, 2011, as "National  
2 Volunteer Week" in Pennsylvania.

3 WHEREAS, National Volunteer Week has been established as a  
4 way to thank some of the nation's most valuable citizens and to  
5 recognize the many ways that volunteers strengthen our  
6 communities; and

7 WHEREAS, During this week, all over the nation, service  
8 projects will be performed and volunteers recognized for their  
9 commitment to service; and

10 WHEREAS, Established in 1974, National Volunteer Week began  
11 when President Richard M. Nixon signed an Executive order to  
12 establish the week as an annual celebration; and

13 WHEREAS, The 2011 theme, "Celebrating People in Action,"  
14 provides an opportunity for individuals, families, nonprofit  
15 organizations and government entities to celebrate ordinary  
16 people who accomplish extraordinary things through service; and

17 WHEREAS, The Hands On Network has merged with the Points of

1 Light Institute to become the largest volunteer management and  
2 civic engagement organization in the nation whose core mission  
3 is to inspire, equip and mobilize people to take action that  
4 changes the world, and it has a network of more than 250  
5 affiliates across the country which deliver approximately 30  
6 million hours of volunteer service annually; and

7 WHEREAS, Entire communities can inspire, equip and mobilize  
8 people to take positive action that changes the world; and

9 WHEREAS, Individual volunteers are at the center of social  
10 change, discovering their power to make a difference, and by  
11 exercising their power to help others they become involved in  
12 shaping our future as a caring and productive Commonwealth; and

13 WHEREAS, Volunteers give their time and talents to help  
14 Pennsylvania's most vulnerable citizens, including those who are  
15 homeless and hungry, elderly persons, at-risk youth and citizens  
16 with disabilities; and

17 WHEREAS, The vulnerable and needy across this Commonwealth  
18 rely on the actions of volunteers everyday to accomplish goals,  
19 find solutions to real problems and overcome challenges; and

20 WHEREAS, Volunteers improve the quality of life for those in  
21 need by building homes and handing out food and supplies; and

22 WHEREAS, Volunteers save lives by putting out fires,  
23 searching for lost persons or supporting blood drives; and

24 WHEREAS, According to the Bureau of Labor Statistics, the  
25 volunteer rate in America rose from 26.4% in 2008 to 26.8% in  
26 2009; and

27 WHEREAS, According to the Corporation for National and  
28 Community Service, 2.8 million people contribute nearly 334  
29 million hours of service each year in this Commonwealth; and

30 WHEREAS, The act of volunteering empowers both the giver and

1 the recipient and motivates others to serve; therefore be it  
2       RESOLVED, That the Senate recognize the week of April 10  
3 through 16, 2011, as "National Volunteer Week" in Pennsylvania.