

THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF PENNSYLVANIA

# SENATE RESOLUTION

No. 181 Session of  
2011

INTRODUCED BY SOLOBAY, PILEGGI, BLAKE, BROWNE, DINNIMAN,  
ERICKSON, FARNESE, FONTANA, GREENLEAF, MENSCH, PIPPY,  
RAFFERTY, STACK, TARTAGLIONE, WARD, WASHINGTON, WAUGH AND  
M. WHITE, SEPTEMBER 20, 2011

INTRODUCED AND ADOPTED, SEPTEMBER 20, 2011

## A RESOLUTION

1 Designating the week of September 19, 2011, as "Animal Disaster  
2 Preparedness Week" in Pennsylvania.

3 WHEREAS, All families are at risk of either natural or  
4 manmade disasters at any time; and

5 WHEREAS, Families across this Commonwealth face possible  
6 evacuation and displacement due to natural and manmade  
7 disasters, such as floods, tornadoes, earthquakes, fires,  
8 nuclear incidents and chemical spills; and

9 WHEREAS, More than 72% of American households have companion  
10 animals; and

11 WHEREAS, Pennsylvania is the fifth largest agricultural state  
12 in the nation and is home to more than 3,000,000 livestock  
13 animals and more than 38,000,000 poultry; and

14 WHEREAS, Despite the high priority animals have in our daily  
15 lives and livelihoods, many animals are injured or killed during  
16 disasters simply because they were overlooked during the  
17 disaster planning process that each family and community

1 undertakes; and

2 WHEREAS, When disasters or emergencies strike in this  
3 Commonwealth, the Pennsylvania State Animal Response Team,  
4 through its network of volunteer County Animal Response Teams,  
5 may be activated by government emergency management agencies to  
6 work with local shelters and rescues and with national animal,  
7 veterinary and disaster organizations to rescue and care for  
8 animals; and

9 WHEREAS, The Congress of the United States acknowledged the  
10 importance of the human-animal bond and animal disaster  
11 preparedness planning by passing into law the Pets Evacuation  
12 and Transportation Standards Act of 2006 (Public Law 109-308,  
13 120 Stat. 1725); and

14 WHEREAS, The Senate echoes the concern of Congress and,  
15 additionally, recognizes the importance of disaster preparedness  
16 for all animals, including companion, livestock and poultry  
17 species; and

18 WHEREAS, The Senate calls upon all citizens of this  
19 Commonwealth to take necessary actions to ensure that all  
20 animals in their care are properly accounted for in disaster  
21 planning; therefore be it

22 RESOLVED, That the Senate designate the week of September 19  
23 through 25, 2011, as "Animal Disaster Preparedness Week" in  
24 dedication to the animals left behind in one of this country's  
25 largest natural disasters, Hurricane Katrina.