
THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF PENNSYLVANIA

HOUSE RESOLUTION

No. 75 Session of
2013

INTRODUCED BY RAVENSTAHL, READSHAW, COHEN, CALTAGIRONE, MILLARD,
DIGIROLAMO, YOUNGBLOOD, BAKER, PICKETT, MATZIE, DELUCA,
KORTZ, V. BROWN, SNYDER, CONKLIN, VEREB, MILLER, EVERETT,
FRANKEL, O'BRIEN, FREEMAN, BROWNLEE, MAJOR, HESS, LONGIETTI,
MCNEILL, HENNESSEY, QUINN, ROSS, FLECK, GINGRICH, BIZZARRO,
MCCARTER, GABLER, ADOLPH, DEASY, GILLEN AND MURT,
FEBRUARY 11, 2013

REFERRED TO COMMITTEE ON HEALTH, FEBRUARY 11, 2013

A RESOLUTION

1 Designating the week of March 17 through 23, 2013, as "Poison
2 Prevention Week" in Pennsylvania.

3 WHEREAS, More than two million poisonings are reported yearly
4 across the United States and more than 90% of these poisonings
5 occur in the home; and

6 WHEREAS, A majority of nonfatal poisonings involve children
7 under six years of age; and

8 WHEREAS, Poisoning remains a leading cause of death among
9 adults; and

10 WHEREAS, On September 16, 1961, Congress established
11 "National Poison Prevention Week" and shortly thereafter the
12 Poison Prevention Week Council was organized to coordinate the
13 annual event; and

14 WHEREAS, "National Poison Prevention Week" is observed
15 annually during the third week in March to promote public

1 education on ways to prevent poisonings; and

2 WHEREAS, If used properly, most consumer products pose no
3 hazard to human health, but if used incorrectly, many common
4 household products, such as pain medicines and cleaning
5 products, can become poisonous; and

6 WHEREAS, Most poison exposures happen unintentionally and
7 only 13% of all poisonings occur from an intentional overdose or
8 misuse of a product or substance; and

9 WHEREAS, Across the United States, 57 poison control centers
10 operate to assist the public with poison emergencies and to
11 respond to questions about poison prevention and exposure to
12 poisons; and

13 WHEREAS, Two poison control centers, the Pittsburgh Poison
14 Center at the Children's Hospital of Pittsburgh and the Poison
15 Control Center at the Children's Hospital of Philadelphia,
16 operate in this Commonwealth; and

17 WHEREAS, The Pittsburgh Poison Center has become nationally
18 recognized for creating the first quality standards for poison
19 control center operation and for assisting in the development of
20 the National Poison Center Network, which is the first network
21 of regional and satellite poison control centers across the
22 United States; and

23 WHEREAS, Due to spiraling health care costs, poison control
24 centers serve as an antidote to emergency room crowding and
25 costs; therefore be it

26 RESOLVED, That the House of Representatives designate the
27 week of March 17 through 23, 2013, as "Poison Prevention Week"
28 in Pennsylvania; and be it further

29 RESOLVED, That the House of Representatives urge all
30 residents to become aware of common sense tips to prevent

1 poisonings such as safely storing poisonous substances, using
2 poisonous substances as directed, ensuring that children are
3 taught to ask before using a poisonous substance and keeping the
4 poison control center toll-free telephone number of 1-800-222-
5 1222 in an easily accessible location; and be it further

6 RESOLVED, That the House of Representatives recognize the
7 outstanding work done by the employees and volunteers at the two
8 poison control centers in this Commonwealth who assist in saving
9 lives by responding to emergencies and teaching the public how
10 to prevent poisonings.