
THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF PENNSYLVANIA

SENATE RESOLUTION

No. 197 Session of
2013

INTRODUCED BY SOLOBAY, STACK, WASHINGTON, WOZNIAK, BROWNE,
DINNIMAN, WAUGH, SMITH, GREENLEAF, PILEGGI, HUGHES, FONTANA,
FERLO AND BOSCOLA, SEPTEMBER 25, 2013

INTRODUCED AND ADOPTED, SEPTEMBER 25, 2013

A RESOLUTION

1 Designating the week of September 23 through 29, 2013, as
2 "Animal Disaster 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 23
23 through 29, 2013, 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.