
THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF PENNSYLVANIA

HOUSE RESOLUTION

No. 449 Session of
2015

INTRODUCED BY MALONEY, BARRAR, TOEPEL, PAYNE, VEREB, GODSHALL,
WATSON, DIGIROLAMO, CORBIN, READSHAW, BISHOP, KINSEY,
SCHLEGEL CULVER, DUSH, SONNEY, DAVIS, BAKER, KAVULICH, ROZZI,
KOTIK, HENNESSEY, BOBACK, SNYDER, MILLARD, BIZZARRO,
OBERLANDER, DONATUCCI, CALTAGIRONE, J. HARRIS, DRISCOLL,
FARINA, TALLMAN, COHEN, KNOWLES, KIRKLAND, P. DALEY,
R. BROWN, WHEELAND, LONGIETTI, IRVIN, KAUFFMAN, PICKETT,
GIBBONS, MURT, SCHLOSSBERG, METCALFE, SCHREIBER, MAHONEY,
MASSER, MATZIE, KILLION, V. BROWN, BENNINGHOFF, COX, MILNE,
MENTZER, THOMAS, HAHN, SANKEY, ZIMMERMAN, KIM, MAJOR, WARD,
ROEBUCK, GROVE, SAYLOR, ROSS, MARSHALL, GOODMAN, A. HARRIS,
WHITE, HARHAI, GINGRICH, BRADFORD, MARSICO, SCHWEYER,
D. COSTA, B. MILLER, GILLEN, FARRY AND PHILLIPS-HILL,
AUGUST 21, 2015

INTRODUCED AS NONCONTROVERSIAL RESOLUTION UNDER RULE 35,
AUGUST 21, 2015

A RESOLUTION

1 Designating September 27, 2015, as "First Responder Appreciation
2 Day" in Pennsylvania.

3 WHEREAS, Most Pennsylvanians have benefited in some way from
4 the courageous service of first responders across this
5 Commonwealth; and

6 WHEREAS, Our first responders, police, fire, emergency
7 medical service and public health personnel, work selflessly on
8 behalf of the people of this Commonwealth, regardless of the
9 risk or hazard; and

10 WHEREAS, First responders carry out the critical role of
11 protecting and ensuring public safety in emergency situations;

1 and

2 WHEREAS, The men and women who bravely serve as first
3 responders have found themselves on the front lines of homeland
4 defense in the war against terrorism; and

5 WHEREAS, First responders are called upon in the event of
6 natural disasters, such as Superstorm Sandy; and

7 WHEREAS, Approximately 150,000 first responders perform these
8 crucial services in this Commonwealth; and

9 WHEREAS, Approximately 30,000 sworn police officers from
10 State, city and county law enforcement agencies protect lives
11 and property, detect and prevent crimes, uphold the law and
12 ensure justice; and

13 WHEREAS, Tens of thousands of firefighters, including
14 approximately 50,000 volunteers and 10,000 career firefighters,
15 provide fire suppression, emergency medical services, search and
16 rescue, hazardous materials response, terrorism response and
17 critical fire prevention and safety education; and

18 WHEREAS, Approximately 60,000 emergency services
19 professionals in this Commonwealth respond to and treat a
20 variety of life-threatening emergencies, from cardiac and
21 respiratory arrest to traumatic injuries; and

22 WHEREAS, First responders make personal sacrifices to protect
23 our communities, as witnessed in the aftermath of the terrorist
24 attacks of September 11, 2001, and the natural destruction of
25 Hurricanes Katrina, Irene and Sandy and as called for every day
26 in cities and towns across this Commonwealth; and

27 WHEREAS, Many law enforcement officers die in the line of
28 duty in the United States each year, including four killed in
29 2014 in Pennsylvania alone; and

30 WHEREAS, Many firefighters are killed in the line of duty

1 across the United States each year and thousands more are
2 injured; and

3 WHEREAS, Many medics are injured on the job, have been
4 assaulted by patients or have been exposed to infectious
5 diseases; and

6 WHEREAS, Emergency medical service personnel in the United
7 States have a fatality rate of more than twice the national
8 average for all other workers; and

9 WHEREAS, Thousands of first responders have made the ultimate
10 sacrifice; and

11 WHEREAS, These men and women, by their dedicated
12 professionalism, have earned our gratitude and respect;
13 therefore be it

14 RESOLVED, That the House of Representatives designate
15 September 27, 2015, as "First Responder Appreciation Day" in
16 Pennsylvania to celebrate the contributions and sacrifices made
17 by all of this Commonwealth's first responders.