
THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF PENNSYLVANIA

HOUSE RESOLUTION

No. 334 Session of
2017

INTRODUCED BY WATSON, CONKLIN, BAKER, V. BROWN, CALTAGIRONE,
D. COSTA, DIGIROLAMO, DUSH, FREEMAN, HENNESSEY, PHILLIPS-
HILL, HILL-EVANS, LONGIETTI, MARSICO, McNEILL, MILLARD,
B. MILLER, MOUL, MURT, NEILSON, O'NEILL, PASHINSKI, READSHAW,
ROEBUCK, ROTHMAN, SCHLOSSBERG, SOLOMON, SONNEY, TOOHIL, WARD,
WARREN AND WHEELAND, MAY 18, 2017

INTRODUCED AS NONCONTROVERSIAL RESOLUTION UNDER RULE 35,
MAY 18, 2017

A RESOLUTION

1 Designating June 1, 2017, as "Child Welfare Caseworker
2 Appreciation Day" in Pennsylvania.

3 WHEREAS, Every day in this Commonwealth thousands of children
4 are at risk of child abuse and neglect or have been removed from
5 their homes due to abuse and neglect; and

6 WHEREAS, The House of Representatives recognizes the need to
7 intervene to protect Pennsylvania's children; and

8 WHEREAS, Commonwealth child welfare caseworkers are
9 responsible for the difficult tasks of investigating child
10 abuse, providing services to families, assessing safety,
11 initiating steps to protect children and providing services to
12 ensure that children are provided with healthy and nurturing
13 care and support as they transition into adulthood and needed
14 services in an effort to reunify families; and

15 WHEREAS, The work of caseworkers requires them to enter into

1 situations in which their personal safety may be put at risk;
2 and

3 WHEREAS, Child welfare caseworkers work in severely trying
4 and emotional situations with children who have been victimized
5 by physical abuse, sexual abuse, neglect and other forms of
6 maltreatment; and

7 WHEREAS, To be successful, child welfare caseworkers must
8 develop great skill in working with families who are in crisis
9 situations, struggling with mental health challenges, suffering
10 from drug and alcohol conditions, poverty and other difficult
11 issues; and

12 WHEREAS, Child welfare caseworkers selflessly undertake the
13 endeavor of protecting the children of this Commonwealth, often
14 with low pay, long hours, tremendous demands, little
15 appreciation and great criticism, all of which has a dramatic
16 impact on their personal lives; and

17 WHEREAS, Every year caseworkers are injured or killed in
18 their pursuit to protect children across the United States; and

19 WHEREAS, These risks were poignantly demonstrated by the
20 intentional firebombing of the Luzerne County Children and Youth
21 Services office on March 6, 2017; and

22 WHEREAS, In 2015, caseworkers in Pennsylvania investigated
23 40,590 reports of child abuse and neglect; and

24 WHEREAS, Innumerable injuries and deaths of children have
25 been averted due to the efforts of child welfare caseworkers;
26 therefore be it

27 RESOLVED, That the House of Representatives designate June 1,
28 2017, as "Child Welfare Caseworker Appreciation Day" in
29 Pennsylvania.