
THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF PENNSYLVANIA

HOUSE RESOLUTION

No. 271 Session of
2019

INTRODUCED BY METCALFE, STAATS, KORTZ, KNOWLES, GREINER, VITALI,
JAMES, SONNEY, SCHLEGEL CULVER, DIGIROLAMO, LONGIETTI, HILL-
EVANS, BURNS, FREEMAN, B. MILLER, ZIMMERMAN, SCHMITT, NEILSON
AND MARSHALL, APRIL 29, 2019

INTRODUCED AS NONCONTROVERSIAL RESOLUTION UNDER RULE 35,
APRIL 29, 2019

A RESOLUTION

1 Designating the week of May 5 through 11, 2019, as "Drinking
2 Water Week" in Pennsylvania.

3 WHEREAS, While more than 70% of the earth's surface is
4 covered with water, only 1% of that water is suitable for human
5 consumption; and

6 WHEREAS, Groundwater, the water that soaks into the soil from
7 raindrops and moves downward to fill cracks and other openings
8 in beds of rock and sand, makes up about 30% of the fresh water
9 on earth, not including polar icecaps; and

10 WHEREAS, Individual water wells tapping groundwater resources
11 provide high-quality water to many homeowners and businesses;
12 and

13 WHEREAS, Few people consider water supply when choosing a
14 home or when taking a stand on local water supply regulations;
15 and

16 WHEREAS, There are 1,949 municipality-owned or investor-owned

1 community drinking water systems providing high-quality water to
2 homeowners and businesses; and

3 WHEREAS, Federal and State drinking water standards are
4 upheld by the Department of Environmental Protection for all of
5 those systems; and

6 WHEREAS, The Pennsylvania Public Utility Commission regulates
7 the rates and service of investor-owned water companies in this
8 Commonwealth; and

9 WHEREAS, The mission of the Pennsylvania Public Utility
10 Commission is to ensure that safe and reliable service is
11 provided to ratepayers at a reasonable price; and

12 WHEREAS, The Pennsylvania Infrastructure Investment Authority
13 (PENNVEST) provides low-cost financial assistance for
14 infrastructure improvements to community drinking water systems;
15 and

16 WHEREAS, Ongoing cooperation among the Department of
17 Environmental Protection, the Pennsylvania Public Utility
18 Commission and PENNVEST strengthens drinking water system
19 viability, enhances service, increases economies of scale,
20 regionally maximizes efficient water supply and use and fosters
21 economic development; and

22 WHEREAS, A State water plan has been developed to coordinate
23 regional, county and local water allocation and use, land
24 development planning and related zoning requirements under Act
25 220 of 2002; and

26 WHEREAS, The American Water Works Association established
27 "National Drinking Water Week" more than 40 years ago to call
28 attention to water as a precious natural resource; and

29 WHEREAS, Water conservation and water quality maintenance are
30 essential to this Commonwealth and our nation; and

1 WHEREAS, Many of us take for granted the instantaneous
2 availability on a 24-hour basis of safe and reliable drinking
3 water service provided by viable community drinking water
4 systems; therefore be it

5 RESOLVED, That the House of Representatives designate the
6 week of May 5 through 11, 2019, as "Drinking Water Week" in
7 Pennsylvania; and be it further

8 RESOLVED, That the House of Representatives encourage a
9 heightened awareness of drinking water treatment, monitoring,
10 distribution and related costs and urge all residents of this
11 Commonwealth to protect our watersheds, conserve our precious
12 drinking water supply and preserve its superior quality.