
THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF PENNSYLVANIA

HOUSE RESOLUTION

No. 329 Session of
2019

INTRODUCED BY FARRY, BIZZARRO, SONNEY, KORTZ, KENYATTA,
SCHLOSSBERG, SCHMITT, MILLARD, DIGIROLAMO, MEHAFFIE, BURNS,
SCHLEGEL CULVER, HILL-EVANS, LONGIETTI, MACKENZIE, WILLIAMS,
HELM, NEILSON, READSHAW, MARSHALL, SAINATO, ZIMMERMAN AND
CALTAGIRONE, MAY 13, 2019

INTRODUCED AS NONCONTROVERSIAL RESOLUTION UNDER RULE 35,
MAY 13, 2019

A RESOLUTION

1 Designating May 15, 2019, as "Pennsylvania Arson Dogs
2 Appreciation Day" in Pennsylvania and honoring all fire and
3 law enforcement investigative agencies for their dedicated
4 and tireless service.

5 WHEREAS, The National Fire Protection Association estimates
6 31,000 intentionally set structure and vehicle fires occurred in
7 2017, resulting in a combined 280 civilian deaths and a total of
8 \$657 million in property damage; and

9 WHEREAS, According to the Federal Bureau of Investigation,
10 there were 33,660 arson cases reported with an average dollar
11 loss of \$15,572 per incident in 2017; and

12 WHEREAS, An accelerant detection canine, also known as an
13 arson dog, is a dog trained to sniff out minute traces of
14 accelerants that may have been used to start a fire; and

15 WHEREAS, Arson dogs go through extensive training before
16 becoming certified accelerant detection canines; and

17 WHEREAS, Each arson dog is part of a team that is comprised

1 of the canine and its handler, a law enforcement officer trained
2 to investigate fire scenes; and

3 WHEREAS, Not only are these teams trained to investigate the
4 causes of fires, they are responsible for providing community
5 outreach programs and educational seminars on fire prevention
6 and safety; and

7 WHEREAS, An arson dog saves time and money by using fewer but
8 more accurate evidence samples, reducing expenditures at the
9 lab, speeding up investigations and providing a higher
10 conviction rate; and

11 WHEREAS, Arson dogs can smell more than 100 times better than
12 humans and are trained to sniff out more than 60 ignitable
13 petroleum-based hydrocarbons; and

14 WHEREAS, The House of Representatives pays tribute to the
15 contribution arson dogs make to fire departments, law
16 enforcement agencies and communities in the conduct of public
17 service and safety missions; therefore be it

18 RESOLVED, That the House of Representatives designate May 15,
19 2019, as "Pennsylvania Arson Dogs Appreciation Day" in
20 Pennsylvania and honor all fire and law enforcement
21 investigative agencies for their dedicated and tireless service.