
THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF PENNSYLVANIA

HOUSE RESOLUTION

No. 343 Session of
2019

INTRODUCED BY FARRY, STAATS, BARRAR, MERSKI, HEFFLEY, PYLE,
HARKINS, T. DAVIS, FREEMAN, MURT, READSHAW, BERNSTINE,
DIGIROLAMO, D. MILLER, SAINATO, THOMAS, SAYLOR, HILL-EVANS,
BROWN, KENYATTA AND GILLEN, MAY 23, 2019

REFERRED TO COMMITTEE ON VETERANS AFFAIRS AND EMERGENCY
PREPAREDNESS, MAY 23, 2019

A RESOLUTION

1 Urging the Congress of the United States to reauthorize and
2 fully fund the September 11th Victim Compensation Fund.

3 WHEREAS, The September 11th Victim Compensation Fund was
4 created in 2001 to compensate individuals for illnesses and
5 deaths due to exposure to toxins at the September 11th attack
6 sites; and

7 WHEREAS, The fund was reauthorized in 2011 and then again in
8 2015, allowing individuals to submit claims until December 18,
9 2020; and

10 WHEREAS, The World Trade Center Health Program was
11 essentially established to diagnose and treat medical issues of
12 September 11th responders and victims; and

13 WHEREAS, The \$7.3 billion fund has already paid out
14 approximately \$5 billion to 21,000 claimants and still has
15 approximately 19,000 additional claims; and

16 WHEREAS, Insufficient money exists to pay current and

1 projected claims at the same levels under current procedures,
2 and claimants that are unpaid will see a drastic cut in
3 payments; and

4 WHEREAS, More than 90,000 Americans, including approximately
5 1,500 residents of this Commonwealth, struggle with illnesses
6 related to the September 11th attacks as of 2018; and

7 WHEREAS, The fund should be reauthorized and fully funded
8 through 2090, which will make it last until the 2090 expiration
9 date of the World Trade Center Health Program; therefore be it

10 RESOLVED, That the House of Representatives of the
11 Commonwealth of Pennsylvania urge the Congress of the United
12 States to reauthorize and fully fund the September 11th Victim
13 Compensation Fund; and be it further

14 RESOLVED, That copies of this resolution be transmitted to
15 the President of the United States, the presiding officers of
16 each house of Congress and to each member of Congress from
17 Pennsylvania.