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THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF PENNSYLVANIA

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SENATE RESOLUTION

No. 353 Session of  
2020

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INTRODUCED BY REGAN, IOVINO, BARTOLOTTA, LANGERHOLC, ARGALL,  
ARNOLD, AUMENT, BAKER, BREWSTER, BROOKS, COSTA, DINNIMAN,  
GORDNER, HUTCHINSON, MARTIN, MENSCH, PHILLIPS-HILL, PITTMAN,  
SCAVELLO, SCHWANK, TARTAGLIONE, J. WARD AND YAW,  
AUGUST 31, 2020

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REFERRED TO RULES AND EXECUTIVE NOMINATIONS, AUGUST 31, 2020

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A RESOLUTION

1 Designating September 14, 2020, as "EMS Memorial Day" in  
2 Pennsylvania.

3 WHEREAS, In 1998, the United States Congress designated the  
4 National EMS Memorial Service be held annually, as the official  
5 EMS Memorial Service in the United States; and

6 WHEREAS, The objective of the EMS Memorial Service is to  
7 remember and honor those emergency medical services personnel  
8 who have died in the line of duty and to recognize the ultimate  
9 sacrifice they have made for their fellow man; and

10 WHEREAS, The traveling memorial of the National EMS Memorial  
11 Service, the Tree of Life, is erected every year; and

12 WHEREAS, The Tree of Life bears a representation of an oak  
13 tree to symbolize strength along with the name, agency and date  
14 of loss of each National EMS Memorial Service honoree engraved  
15 on a bronze oak leaf; and

16 WHEREAS, Since 2011, the Pennsylvania EMS Provider Foundation

1 has organized an EMS Memorial Service at the State Capitol to  
2 remember Pennsylvania EMS providers that have given their lives  
3 in the line of duty; and

4 WHEREAS, During the Memorial Service at the Capitol, the name  
5 of each honoree is read followed by the ringing of the bell; and

6 WHEREAS, Since 2013, the following EMS personnel have been  
7 honored for making the ultimate sacrifice during the performance  
8 of emergency service duties:

9 (1) Samantha Agins, Camp Jaycee, Stroudsburg.

10 (2) Ethan Lynn Amsbaugh, Priority Volunteer Response  
11 Ambulance, Mt. Union.

12 (3) Robert Ashby, Sr., Christiana Community Ambulance,  
13 Gap.

14 (4) Brenda Bauer, City of Reading Fire, Reading.

15 (5) David J. Blausen, Wilkins-Churchill Rescue One,  
16 Wilkins.

17 (6) Walter L. Bricker, Metal Township Fire & Ambulance  
18 Co, Fannettsburg.

19 (7) John Buchner, Scranton Fire Department Ambulance,  
20 Scranton.

21 (8) Jeanette M. Christ, University Medevac/Lehigh Valley  
22 Hospital, Allentown.

23 (9) Kelly A. Conti, Critical Care Diversified  
24 Enterprises, West Mifflin.

25 (10) John R. Demkosky, Lackawanna Ambulance Service,  
26 Scranton.

27 (11) Kline DeWire, Susquehanna Health System EMS,  
28 Williamsport.

29 (12) Bruce H. Ditlow, St Joseph Hospital, Lancaster.

30 (13) Theodore Dybus, Veterans Memorial Ambulance

1 Service, Northern Cambria.

2 (14) Kevin A. Ellefson, Medic Rescue Ambulance Service,  
3 Beaver Falls.

4 (15) Donald J. Felker, Collingdale Fire Company No 1,  
5 Collingdale.

6 (16) Dale C. Francis, Lifestar Ambulance Corps,  
7 Quakertown.

8 (17) Michael "Boz" Garvin, Second Alarmers Association  
9 and Rescue Squad, Willow Grove.

10 (18) John M. Goodwin, Guthrie One Helicopter, Sayre.

11 (19) Thomas Gruen, Tunkhannock Ambulance Association,  
12 Tunkhannock.

13 (20) Richard A. Hartley, Derry Township Fire Police,  
14 Lewistown.

15 (21) Mark W. Haussler, Guthrie One Helicopter, Sayre.

16 (22) Herbert W. McCay, American Medical Response,  
17 Philadelphia.

18 (23) Thomas Hicks, Citizens Volunteer Fire Company,  
19 York.

20 (24) Wesley Hostetter, Lack Tuscarora EMS, East  
21 Waterford.

22 (25) Robert W. Justis, St. Luke's Transport Service,  
23 Tannersville.

24 (26) Daniel E. Keller, Fayette EMS, Connellsville.

25 (27) Robert Kohler, Sr. Northeastern Area EMS, York.

26 (28) Shawn M. Kramer, Hamburg Ambulance Service, West  
27 Lawn/Hamburg.

28 (29) Robert. W. Justis, St. Luke's Transport Service,  
29 Tannersville

30 (30) James S. Landis, University Medevac/Lehigh Valley

1 Hospital, Allentown.

2 (31) John F. Legieko, Parkesburg Ambulance/Fire Co,  
3 Parkesburg.

4 (32) Janice M. Keen-Livingston, West End Ambulance  
5 Service, Johnstown.

6 (33) Kevin Maffettone, Bucks County 2012 Morrisville,  
7 Levittown.

8 (34) Herbert W. McCay, American Medical Response,  
9 Philadelphia.

10 (35) Daniel W. McIntosh, Bensalem EMS, Bensalem.

11 (36) Harry R. Moore, Duquesne EMS, Duquesne.

12 (37) Paul Moyer, Yoe Ambulance, York.

13 (38) Michael R. Murphy, PennSTAR, Philadelphia.

14 (39) Barry John Nagle, Silver Spring Ambulance and  
15 Rescue, New Kingstown.

16 (40) Deborah J. Nole, Guthrie One Helicopter, Sayre.

17 (41) Larry Oberle, Alpha Fire Company Community  
18 Ambulance, State College.

19 (42) Kenneth Duane Prunty, Tri Community Ambulance,  
20 Monogahela.

21 (43) Elwood C. Queen Sr., Irvona Volunteer Ambulance  
22 Service, Irvona.

23 (44) Robert Reeder, Crozer-Keystone EMS, Upland.

24 (45) Patricia A. Riccobono, Lehigh Valley Hospital,  
25 Allentown.

26 (46) David A. Sauder, Leola Ambulance Association,  
27 Leola.

28 (47) Heinz Schulz, Emergycare/LifeStar of Erie, Erie.

29 (48) Richard Shoaf, Jr., Swarthmore Fire & Protection  
30 Assn, Swarthmore.

1 (49) Matthew C. Smelser, Rostraver-West Newton Emergency  
2 Medical Services, Belle Vernon.

3 (50) Edward E. Soper, H.O.P.S. Ambulance, Le Raysville.

4 (51) William R. Spence, CJ Systems Aviation Group, West  
5 Mifflin.

6 (52) Ethel M. Speros, Willow Street Ambulance  
7 Association, Willow Street.

8 (53) Richard J. Stark, Thornhurst Volunteer Fire/Rescue  
9 Ambulance Squad, Thornhurst.

10 (54) Daniel Sweeney, Philadelphia Fire Department,  
11 Philadelphia.

12 (55) Joseph M. Vagnier, Monroeville Fire Dept,  
13 Monroeville.

14 (56) Robert Vetter, Mon Valley EMS, Monessen.

15 (57) John M. Watson, Moscow Volunteer Fire  
16 Department/Hose Co Ambulance, Moscow.

17 (58) Kevin L. Weatherlow, St Joseph Hospital, Lancaster.

18 (59) Craig Webb, University EMS, Dauphin.

19 (60) Gregory Wentzel, First Aid & Safety Patrol  
20 Emergency Medical Services Agency, Lebanon.

21 (61) David A. Womer, Mount Carmel Area Rescue Squad,  
22 Mount Carmel.

23 (62) Robert H. Wood, Montrose Minute Men, Montrose.

24 (63) David Young, Central Juniata EMS, Juniata;

25 and

26 WHEREAS, Since 2016, prior to the Memorial Service, the  
27 Pennsylvania EMS Provider Foundation holds a cycling event which  
28 ends at the Capitol; and

29 WHEREAS, On January 5, 2020, Rostraver West Newton Emergency  
30 Services Paramedic Supervisor, Matthew C. Smelser, was struck

1 and killed by a vehicle after he exited his ambulance to attend  
2 to an accident victim along Interstate 70 in South Huntingdon;  
3 and

4 WHEREAS, On February 1, 2020, Paramedic Theodore Dybus, of  
5 the Veterans Ambulance Service in Northern Cambria, tragically  
6 suffered a medical emergency while on duty and passed away; and

7 WHEREAS, The Senate greatly appreciates the critical role  
8 that EMS plays, providing emergency response and serving as the  
9 front line delivery of health care, while under extraordinarily  
10 adverse situations, and often with little to no pay; therefore  
11 be it

12 RESOLVED, That the Senate designate September 14, 2020, as  
13 "EMS Memorial Day" in Pennsylvania.