
THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF PENNSYLVANIA

SENATE RESOLUTION

No. 375 Session of
2020

INTRODUCED BY DINNIMAN, MARTIN, FARNESE, KILLION, FONTANA,
PHILLIPS-HILL, COSTA AND SCAVELLO, SEPTEMBER 18, 2020

REFERRED TO RULES AND EXECUTIVE NOMINATIONS, SEPTEMBER 18, 2020

A RESOLUTION

1 Recognizing the month of November 2020 as "Carbon Monoxide
2 Awareness Month" in Pennsylvania.

3 WHEREAS, November is the best time to raise awareness for
4 carbon monoxide poisoning as the threat of exposure increases as
5 people stay indoors and burn more fuel to heat their homes
6 during the winter months; and

7 WHEREAS, Exposure occurs most commonly when a person leaves a
8 vehicle running, burns charcoal, alcohol or gasoline in an
9 enclosed space or smokes a cigar, cigarette or pipe; and

10 WHEREAS, Incorrectly vented or malfunctioning appliances and
11 products and equipment powered by internal combustion engines,
12 such as portable generators, cars, lawn mowers and power
13 washers, also produce carbon monoxide; and

14 WHEREAS, Carbon monoxide is known as a "silent killer"
15 because it is a colorless, odorless and tasteless poisonous gas
16 that can be fatal when inhaled; and

17 WHEREAS, Symptoms of carbon monoxide poisoning may include a
18 dull headache, weakness, dizziness, nausea or vomiting,

1 shortness of breath, confusion, blurred vision and loss of
2 consciousness; and

3 WHEREAS, The health effects of carbon monoxide poisoning can
4 vary significantly due to age, sex, weight and overall state of
5 health; and

6 WHEREAS, Depending on the degree and length of exposure,
7 carbon monoxide poisoning can harm the central nervous system,
8 cause permanent brain damage or damage the heart, leading to
9 life-threatening cardiac complications or death; and

10 WHEREAS, A 2007 study by the Centers for Disease Control and
11 Prevention found that Pennsylvania leads the nation in
12 accidental carbon monoxide poisoning deaths; and

13 WHEREAS, The Centers for Disease Control and Prevention has
14 determined that carbon monoxide claims approximately 430 lives
15 each year and that carbon monoxide exposure sends more than
16 50,000 people to emergency rooms annually; and

17 WHEREAS, Public education and awareness about carbon monoxide
18 poisonings are critical to protecting residents of Pennsylvania
19 from the dangers of this deadly gas and the risk factors in the
20 home; and

21 WHEREAS, Carbon monoxide alarms have been determined to be
22 the most effective way to detect carbon monoxide; and

23 WHEREAS, There is a dramatic correlation between cities with
24 carbon monoxide alarm ordinances and lower death rates from
25 carbon monoxide poisoning; therefore be it

26 RESOLVED, That the Senate recognize the month of November
27 2020 as "Carbon Monoxide Awareness Month" in Pennsylvania.