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THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF PENNSYLVANIA

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# HOUSE RESOLUTION

No. 796 Session of  
2014

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INTRODUCED BY VITALI, R. MILLER, FRANKEL, GOODMAN, FREEMAN,  
CALTAGIRONE, MCGEEHAN, COHEN, PASHINSKI, DONATUCCI, KORTZ,  
SCHREIBER, READSHAW, YOUNGBLOOD, KIRKLAND, DIGIROLAMO,  
KINSEY, MUSTIO, VEREB, SANTARSIERO, DENLINGER, KIM, ROSS,  
BOBACK, MCNEILL, MILLARD, O'BRIEN, MARSICO, SCHLEGEL CULVER,  
BAKER, BROWNLEE, THOMAS, MARSHALL, V. BROWN, MAHONEY,  
D. COSTA, SABATINA, MAJOR, DEASY, FLECK, WHITE, GINGRICH,  
RAVENSTAHL, HARHART, MURT, MCCARTER, ROCK AND BRADFORD,  
APRIL 28, 2014

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REFERRED TO COMMITTEE ON ENVIRONMENTAL RESOURCES AND ENERGY,  
APRIL 28, 2014

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## A RESOLUTION

1 Designating the week of May 4 through 10, 2014, as "Drinking  
2 Water Week" in Pennsylvania.

3 WHEREAS, While 80% of the earth's surface is covered with  
4 water, only 1% of that water is suitable for human consumption;  
5 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 90% 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;

1 and

2 WHEREAS, An estimated 2,200 municipally owned or investor-  
3 owned community drinking water systems provide high-quality  
4 water to homeowners and businesses; and

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

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

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

14 WHEREAS, PENNVEST (the Pennsylvania Infrastructure Investment  
15 Authority) and the H2O PA program provide low-cost financial  
16 assistance for infrastructure improvements to community drinking  
17 water systems; and

18 WHEREAS, Ongoing cooperation among the Department of  
19 Environmental Protection, the Pennsylvania Public Utility  
20 Commission, PENNVEST and the H2O PA program strengthens drinking  
21 water system viability, enhances service, increases economies of  
22 scale, regionally maximizes efficient water supply and use and  
23 fosters economic development; and

24 WHEREAS, A State water plan has been developed to coordinate  
25 regional, county and local water allocation and use, land  
26 development planning and related zoning requirements under Act  
27 220 of 2002; and

28 WHEREAS, The American Water Works Association established  
29 "National Drinking Water Week" more than 30 years ago to call  
30 attention to water as a precious natural resource; and

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

3       WHEREAS, Because the service provided by viable community  
4 drinking water systems is generally available instantaneously on  
5 a 24-hour basis, many of us take safe and reliable drinking  
6 water for granted; therefore be it

7       RESOLVED, That the House of Representatives designate the  
8 week of May 4 through 10, 2014, as "Drinking Water Week" in  
9 Pennsylvania to heighten awareness of drinking water treatment,  
10 monitoring, distribution and related costs and urge all  
11 residents of this Commonwealth to protect our watersheds,  
12 conserve our precious drinking water supply and preserve its  
13 superior quality.