
THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF PENNSYLVANIA

HOUSE RESOLUTION

No. 279 Session of
2023

INTRODUCED BY BELLMON, GALLAGHER, HOHENSTEIN AND E. NELSON,
DECEMBER 8, 2023

REFERRED TO COMMITTEE ON TRANSPORTATION, DECEMBER 8, 2023

A RESOLUTION

1 Extending in whole the disaster emergency declared on June 12,
2 2023, and extended in whole by the General Assembly until
3 November 1, 2023, by Senate Resolution No. 136, and further
4 extended in whole by the General Assembly for an additional
5 120 calendar days from November 1, 2023, by House Resolution
6 No. 197, in response to the collapse of the northbound bridge
7 and severe compromise of the southbound bridge on Interstate
8 95 in the City of Philadelphia, Philadelphia County.

9 WHEREAS, On June 12, 2023, the Governor issued a proclamation
10 declaring a disaster emergency in response to the collapse of
11 the northbound bridge and severe compromise of the southbound
12 bridge on Interstate 95 in the City of Philadelphia,
13 Philadelphia County; and

14 WHEREAS, On June 11, 2023, a tanker truck fire erupted
15 underneath a northbound and southbound bridge on Interstate 95
16 in the City of Philadelphia, Philadelphia County; and

17 WHEREAS, The fire led to the collapse of the northbound
18 bridge and severe compromise of the southbound bridge; and

19 WHEREAS, The City of Philadelphia and surrounding political
20 subdivisions continue to experience adverse impacts, including
21 ongoing traffic disruption in and around the scene of the

1 incident; and

2 WHEREAS, These adverse impacts are of such magnitude and
3 severity as to render essential the Commonwealth's
4 supplementation of county and municipal efforts and resources
5 and the activation of all applicable State, county and municipal
6 emergency response plans; and

7 WHEREAS, Recovery and rebuilding efforts in response to the
8 damage caused by the incident remain ongoing; and

9 WHEREAS, On June 30, 2023, the Senate and the House of
10 Representatives both adopted Senate Resolution No. 136 which
11 extended in whole the declaration of disaster emergency until
12 November 1, 2023; and

13 WHEREAS, On September 27, 2023, the House of Representatives
14 adopted House Resolution No. 197, which was subsequently adopted
15 by the Senate on October 23, 2023, extending in whole the
16 declaration of disaster emergency for an additional 120 calendar
17 days from November 1, 2023; and

18 WHEREAS, Extending the disaster emergency declaration will
19 ensure that the Commonwealth is eligible to receive emergency
20 relief funding from the Federal Government to assist the
21 Commonwealth recovery and rebuilding activities related to the
22 collapse of the northbound bridge and severe compromise of the
23 southbound bridge on Interstate 95; therefore be it

24 RESOLVED (the Senate concurring), That the General Assembly,
25 in accordance with section 20(c) of Article IV of the
26 Constitution of Pennsylvania, further extend in whole the
27 disaster emergency declared on June 12, 2023, and extended in
28 whole until November 1, 2023, by Senate Resolution No. 136, and
29 further extended by 120 calendar days from November 1, 2023, by
30 House Resolution No. 197, for an additional 90 calendar days

1 from February 29, 2024, in response to the collapse of the
2 northbound bridge and severe compromise of the southbound bridge
3 on Interstate 95 in the City of Philadelphia, Philadelphia
4 County, except as terminated or extended, in whole or in part,
5 by the General Assembly; and be it further

6 RESOLVED, That, upon adoption of this concurrent resolution
7 by both chambers of the General Assembly, the Secretary of the
8 Senate and the Chief Clerk of the House of Representatives be
9 directed to notify the Governor of the General Assembly's
10 action; and be it further

11 RESOLVED, That the Secretary of the Senate and the Chief
12 Clerk of the House of Representatives be directed to transmit
13 this concurrent resolution to the Legislative Reference Bureau
14 for publication in the next available issue of the Pennsylvania
15 Bulletin as specified under 45 Pa.C.S. § 725(a)(4).