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THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF PENNSYLVANIA

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SENATE RESOLUTION

No. 100 Session of  
2017

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INTRODUCED BY YAW, APRIL 26, 2017

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INTRODUCED AND ADOPTED, APRIL 26, 2017

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A RESOLUTION

1 Designating the week of May 7 through 13, 2017, as "Drinking  
2 Water Week" in Pennsylvania.

3 WHEREAS, While 71% of the earth's surface is covered with  
4 water, only 3.5% of that water is suitable for human  
5 consumption; 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 approximately 30% of the  
9 fresh water 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;  
15 and

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

1       WHEREAS, The Department of Environmental Protection upholds  
2 Federal and State drinking water standards for all of those  
3 systems; and

4       WHEREAS, The Pennsylvania Public Utility Commission regulates  
5 the rates and service of investor-owned water companies in this  
6 Commonwealth; and

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

10       WHEREAS, The Pennsylvania Infrastructure Investment Authority  
11 (PENNVEST) provides low-cost financial assistance for  
12 infrastructure improvements to community drinking water systems;  
13 and

14       WHEREAS, Ongoing cooperation among the Department of  
15 Environmental Protection, the Pennsylvania Public Utility  
16 Commission and PENNVEST strengthens drinking water system  
17 viability, enhances service, increases economies of scale,  
18 regionally maximizes efficient water supply and use and fosters  
19 economic development; and

20       WHEREAS, A State water plan has been developed to coordinate  
21 regional, county and local water allocation and use, land  
22 development planning and related zoning requirements under Act  
23 220 of 2002; and

24       WHEREAS, The American Water Works Association established  
25 "National Drinking Water Week" more than 35 years ago to call  
26 attention to water as a precious natural resource; and

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

29       WHEREAS, Because the service provided by viable community  
30 drinking water systems is generally available instantaneously on

1 a 24-hour basis, many of us take safe and reliable drinking  
2 water for granted; therefore be it

3       RESOLVED, That the Senate designate the week of May 7 through  
4 13, 2017, as "Drinking Water Week" in Pennsylvania to heighten  
5 awareness of drinking water treatment, monitoring, distribution  
6 and related costs and urge all residents of this Commonwealth to  
7 protect our watersheds, conserve our precious drinking water  
8 supply and preserve its superior quality.