
THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF PENNSYLVANIA

SENATE RESOLUTION

No. 128 Session of
2015

INTRODUCED BY BAKER, GREENLEAF, PILEGGI, HAYWOOD, TEPLITZ,
TARTAGLIONE, COSTA, RAFFERTY, ALLOWAY, SCHWANK AND DINNIMAN,
MAY 12, 2015

INTRODUCED AND ADOPTED, MAY 12, 2015

A RESOLUTION

1 Commemorating the 100th anniversary of the enactment of the
2 Workers' Compensation Act in this Commonwealth.

3 WHEREAS, The Workers' Compensation Act was passed on June 2,
4 1915, providing vital protection to injured workers and
5 employers of the Commonwealth; and

6 WHEREAS, Prior to passage of the act, thousands of industrial
7 accidents occurred in this Commonwealth, many of which resulted
8 in death, placing a heavy burden on injured employees, their
9 dependents and society as a whole; and

10 WHEREAS, The Workers' Compensation Act provides lost wages
11 and medical benefits to employees who become ill or injured
12 through the course of their employment so they can heal and
13 return to the work force; and

14 WHEREAS, The Workers' Compensation Act is often referred to
15 as the "grand bargain" because both employers and employees
16 agree to accept certain limitations and responsibilities while
17 giving up the right to sue; and

1 WHEREAS, This "grand bargain" stemmed the crisis of
2 uncompensated work injuries and deaths, playing a pivotal role
3 in the Industrial Revolution of the Commonwealth and its future
4 economic development; and

5 WHEREAS, This Commonwealth was the 31st state in the nation
6 to adopt the no-fault system of providing monetary compensation
7 and medical treatment for workers injured on the job; and

8 WHEREAS, The Workers' Compensation Act outlines
9 administrative obligations of the Department of Labor and
10 Industry, which inspects working conditions and workplaces to
11 promote safe working environments and an improved business
12 climate; and

13 WHEREAS, The Workers' Compensation Act required employers to
14 pay for insurance through either a private insurance company or
15 the State Workers' Insurance Fund; and

16 WHEREAS, The State Workers' Insurance Fund provides
17 assistance through the Commonwealth to employers for the wage
18 replacement and medical benefits of employees who suffer
19 workplace-related injuries; and

20 WHEREAS, The act has been amended 10 times over the years,
21 and the system has undergone many changes, expanding coverage
22 and benefits and improving enforcement and administration;
23 therefore be it

24 RESOLVED, That the Senate commemorate the 100th anniversary
25 of the enactment of the Workers' Compensation Act in this
26 Commonwealth and recognize that this act will continue to
27 protect workers and employers from the potentially devastating
28 consequences of work injuries.