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THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF PENNSYLVANIA

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SENATE RESOLUTION

No. 328 Session of  
2015

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INTRODUCED BY YUDICHAK, YAW, TEPLITZ, HAYWOOD, SABATINA,  
GREENLEAF, DINNIMAN, BREWSTER, BROWNE, FONTANA, ARGALL,  
FARNESE, RAFFERTY, SCHWANK, COSTA, HUTCHINSON, MENSCH, AUMENT  
AND BARTOLOTTA, APRIL 11, 2016

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INTRODUCED AND ADOPTED, APRIL 11, 2016

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A RESOLUTION

1 Designating the week of May 1 through 7, 2016, 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;  
15 and

16 WHEREAS, An estimated 2,200 municipally owned or investor-  
17 owned community drinking water systems provide high-quality

1 water to homeowners and businesses; and

2 WHEREAS, Federal and State drinking water standards are  
3 upheld by the Department of Environmental Protection for all of  
4 those systems; and

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

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

11 WHEREAS, PENNVEST (the Pennsylvania Infrastructure Investment  
12 Authority) and the H2O PA Program provide low-cost financial  
13 assistance for infrastructure improvements to community drinking  
14 water systems; and

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

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

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

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

30 WHEREAS, Because the service provided by viable community

1 drinking water systems is generally available instantaneously on  
2 a 24-hour basis, many of us take safe and reliable drinking  
3 water for granted; therefore be it

4       RESOLVED, That the Senate designate the week of May 1 through  
5 7, 2016, as "Drinking Water Week" in Pennsylvania to heighten  
6 awareness of drinking water treatment, monitoring, distribution  
7 and related costs and urge all residents of this Commonwealth to  
8 protect our watersheds, conserve our precious drinking water  
9 supply and preserve its superior quality.