
THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF PENNSYLVANIA

SENATE RESOLUTION

No. 440 Session of
2014

INTRODUCED BY MENSCH, WARD, WASHINGTON, GREENLEAF, ERICKSON,
FERLO, EICHELBERGER, RAFFERTY, KASUNIC, TEPLITZ, STACK,
FONTANA, TARTAGLIONE, SCHWANK, DINNIMAN, SCARNATI, BAKER,
COSTA, VULAKOVICH, SMITH, PILEGGI, WOZNIAK, McILHINNEY AND
YUDICHAK, SEPTEMBER 16, 2014

INTRODUCED AND ADOPTED, SEPTEMBER 16, 2014

A RESOLUTION

1 Designating the month of September 2014 as "Emergency
2 Preparedness Month" in Pennsylvania.

3 WHEREAS, Each year, disasters strike communities across the
4 United States destroying property and claiming lives; and

5 WHEREAS, Recovery when a disaster strikes is a collective
6 action involving the survivors, the community, government,
7 nongovernmental agencies and private industry; and

8 WHEREAS, Emergencies come in many forms, from natural
9 disasters like Hurricanes Agnes, Katrina and Irene to man-made
10 disasters such as the attacks of September 11, 2001; and

11 WHEREAS, This September 11, 2014, marks the 13th anniversary
12 of the terrorist attacks of 9-11, which brought death and
13 destruction to New York City, Washington, DC and a field in
14 Shanksville, in the western part of this Commonwealth; and

15 WHEREAS, On September 11, 2001, United Airlines Flight 93
16 crashed near Shanksville, Pennsylvania, after a heroic attempt

1 by passengers to regain control of the hijacked flight; and

2 WHEREAS, Hurricane Irene in August 2011 and Tropical Storm
3 Lee in September 2011 caused the most widespread flooding and
4 devastation in Pennsylvania since Hurricane Agnes in 1972; and

5 WHEREAS, Countless acts of courage and humanitarianism were
6 performed by first responders, emergency workers and citizens
7 responding to Hurricane Irene and Tropical Storm Lee and
8 assisting those affected by those storms; and

9 WHEREAS, Hurricane Sandy also ravaged our Commonwealth in
10 October 2012, as one of the deadliest and most destructive
11 hurricanes of the 2012 Atlantic hurricane season; and

12 WHEREAS, In September 2014, the United States Department of
13 Homeland Security is once again sponsoring National Preparedness
14 Month to encourage Americans to take simple steps to prepare for
15 emergencies in their homes, businesses, communities, places of
16 worship and schools; and

17 WHEREAS, The purpose of National Preparedness Month is to
18 raise public awareness about the need to reduce our
19 vulnerability to hazards and to respond quickly and effectively
20 to disasters; and

21 WHEREAS, The Commonwealth is committed to helping all of its
22 residents, communities and businesses prepare for, respond to
23 and recover from emergencies; and

24 WHEREAS, The Commonwealth has made it a special priority to
25 spearhead emergency preparedness planning for those with special
26 needs, including children, older Pennsylvanians, people with
27 disabilities and owners of pets and livestock; and

28 WHEREAS, The Commonwealth has embarked upon an ongoing
29 ReadyPA campaign to raise the awareness of its residents
30 regarding emergencies and to help Pennsylvanians prepare for an

1 emergency; and

2 WHEREAS, The ReadyPA Internet website is www.readypa.org; and

3 WHEREAS, One goal of ReadyPA is to encourage Pennsylvanians
4 to "Be Informed" by learning what type of emergencies may occur
5 and what to do during the first 72 hours after an emergency
6 strikes; and

7 WHEREAS, A second goal of ReadyPA is to encourage
8 Pennsylvanians to "Be Prepared" by having an emergency plan and
9 an emergency supply kit for themselves, their families and their
10 businesses; and

11 WHEREAS, A third goal of ReadyPA is to encourage
12 Pennsylvanians to "Be Involved" by volunteering their time and
13 services to help others prepare for, respond to and recover from
14 emergencies, including volunteering through Citizen Corps and
15 SERVPA (www.serv.pa.gov); and

16 WHEREAS, Being prepared for emergencies has saved the lives
17 of countless people in every kind of disaster; therefore be it

18 RESOLVED, That the Senate designate the month of September
19 2014 as "Emergency Preparedness Month" in Pennsylvania.