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THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF PENNSYLVANIA

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SENATE RESOLUTION

No. 72 Session of  
2021

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INTRODUCED BY TOMLINSON, APRIL 13, 2021

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REFERRED TO RULES AND EXECUTIVE NOMINATIONS, APRIL 13, 2021

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A RESOLUTION

1 Designating the month of April 2021 as "Pennsylvania 8-1-1 Safe  
2 Digging Month."

3 WHEREAS, As engineers, designers, excavators and homeowners  
4 work to keep pace with this Commonwealth's unprecedented  
5 economic development, it is important to minimize damage to  
6 underground utility lines, danger to workers, environmental  
7 pollution and loss of utility service to residents of this  
8 Commonwealth; and

9 WHEREAS, The Pennsylvania One Call System, a utility  
10 notification center celebrating more than 49 years of continuous  
11 service to this Commonwealth, is key to preventing injuries and  
12 damage when excavating and demolishing; and

13 WHEREAS, This unique service provides easy, one-call  
14 notification about construction and excavation projects that may  
15 endanger workers and jeopardize utility lines and promotes  
16 workplace and public safety, reduces underground utility damage,  
17 minimizes utility service interruptions and protects the  
18 environment; and

1       WHEREAS, This vital service, which began with only six  
2 utility companies in western Pennsylvania and the City of  
3 Pittsburgh, now serves more than 100,000 excavators and 3,680  
4 critical infrastructure owners throughout this Commonwealth; and

5       WHEREAS, In 2020, despite a worldwide pandemic, the  
6 Pennsylvania One Call System received nearly 1 million  
7 notification requests and transmitted more than 6.4 million  
8 notifications to its members, providing protection to utility  
9 companies, their employees and customers; and

10       WHEREAS, Pennsylvania's Underground Utility Line Protection  
11 Law, also known as the PA One Call Act, has been used as a model  
12 for many other states and at least seven foreign countries; and

13       WHEREAS, Dozens of counties and hundreds of municipalities  
14 are following in the footsteps of the Pennsylvania General  
15 Assembly and adopting their own proclamations memorializing  
16 "Safe Digging Month"; therefore be it

17       RESOLVED, That the Senate designate the month of April 2021  
18 as "Pennsylvania 8-1-1 Safe Digging Month" to encourage all  
19 excavators and homeowners of this Commonwealth to dial 8-1-1 /  
20 1-800-242-1776 or click [www.pa811.org](http://www.pa811.org) before planning a digging  
21 project in order to "Know What's Below," avoid injury, protect  
22 the environment and prevent millions of dollars in damages; and  
23 be it further

24       RESOLVED, That the Senate remind excavators that three  
25 business days' notice before digging is the law because safe  
26 digging is no accident and that more information may be obtained  
27 by visiting [www.pa811.org](http://www.pa811.org); and be it further

28       RESOLVED, That copies of this resolution be transmitted to  
29 the Governor, the Chairman of the Public Utility Commission, the  
30 Secretary of Transportation, the Secretary of General Services,

1 the Secretary of Environmental Protection, the Secretary of  
2 Conservation and Natural Resources and the Pennsylvania One Call  
3 System, Inc.