

---

THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF PENNSYLVANIA

---

HOUSE RESOLUTION

No. 112 Session of  
2017

---

INTRODUCED BY RAVENSTAHL, CALTAGIRONE, READSHAW, MURT, KINSEY,  
FREEMAN, BIZZARRO, LONGIETTI, J. HARRIS, BOBACK, O'BRIEN,  
MACKENZIE, MATZIE, DRISCOLL, KULIK, TOOHL, WATSON, DUSH,  
SONNEY, MILLARD, DIGIROLAMO, MARSHALL, V. BROWN, WARREN,  
WARD, NEILSON, SCHLEGEL CULVER, DEASY, GOODMAN, SCHWEYER AND  
D. COSTA, MARCH 3, 2017

---

INTRODUCED AS NONCONTROVERSIAL RESOLUTION UNDER RULE 35,  
MARCH 3, 2017

---

A RESOLUTION

1 Designating the week of March 19 through 25, 2017, as "Poison  
2 Prevention Week" in Pennsylvania.

3 WHEREAS, Each year, more than 2 million poisonings are  
4 reported to poison centers across the United States; and

5 WHEREAS, Approximately half of all poison exposure cases  
6 involve children under six years of age; and

7 WHEREAS, A majority of poisonings occur in the home where  
8 analgesics, cosmetics or other personal care products, household  
9 cleaning products and prescription drugs are subject to exposure  
10 or improper use; and

11 WHEREAS, On September 16, 1961, Congress established  
12 "National Poison Prevention Week," and shortly thereafter the  
13 Poison Prevention Week Council was organized to coordinate this  
14 annual event and promote poison prevention; and

15 WHEREAS, "National Poison Prevention Week" is observed

1 annually during the third week in March to promote public  
2 education on ways to prevent poisonings; and

3 WHEREAS, Though most consumer products pose no hazard to  
4 human health if used properly, many common household products,  
5 including opioid medications and cleaning products, can become  
6 poisonous; and

7 WHEREAS, Across the United States, 55 poison control centers  
8 operate to assist the public with poison emergencies and to  
9 respond to questions about poison prevention and exposure to  
10 poisons; and

11 WHEREAS, Two poison control centers, the Pittsburgh Poison  
12 Center of the University of Pittsburgh Medical Center and the  
13 Poison Control Center at the Children's Hospital of  
14 Philadelphia, operate in this Commonwealth; and

15 WHEREAS, Each year, the Pittsburgh Poison Center responds to  
16 more than 150,000 requests for poison information from the  
17 general public and medical professionals and regularly conducts  
18 community education and outreach programs in western  
19 Pennsylvania; and

20 WHEREAS, The Pittsburgh Poison Center is a nationally  
21 recognized poison information control center and has developed a  
22 regional network of hospital treatment centers throughout this  
23 Commonwealth to ensure the utmost care in all referred cases of  
24 poison exposure; and

25 WHEREAS, Due to escalating health care costs, investment in  
26 poison control centers is of vital importance to reduce  
27 emergency room visits and the length of hospital stays, avoid  
28 unnecessary hospital admissions and limit the use of expensive  
29 therapies and extraneous laboratory testing; and

30 WHEREAS, For every \$1 invested in poison control centers, an

1 estimated \$13 is saved in health care expenditures; therefore be  
2 it

3 RESOLVED, That the House of Representatives designate the  
4 week of March 19 through 25, 2017, as "Poison Prevention Week"  
5 in Pennsylvania; and be it further

6 RESOLVED, That the House of Representatives urge all  
7 residents to become aware of common sense tips to prevent  
8 poisonings, such as safely storing poisonous substances, using  
9 poisonous substances as directed, ensuring that children are  
10 taught to ask before using a poisonous substance and keeping the  
11 poison control center toll-free telephone number of 1-800-222-  
12 1222 in an easily accessible location; and be it further

13 RESOLVED, That the House of Representatives recognize the  
14 outstanding work done by the employees and volunteers at the  
15 poison control centers in this Commonwealth who assist in saving  
16 lives by responding to emergencies and teaching the public how  
17 to prevent poisonings.