
THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF PENNSYLVANIA

HOUSE RESOLUTION

No. 29 Session of
2021

INTRODUCED BY ISAACSON, CIRESI, CONKLIN, FREEMAN, HILL-EVANS,
HOHENSTEIN, HOWARD, LONGIETTI, MENTZER, NEILSON, O'MARA,
SANCHEZ, SCHLOSSBERG, VITALI AND WEBSTER, JANUARY 29, 2021

REFERRED TO COMMITTEE ON ENVIRONMENTAL RESOURCES AND ENERGY,
JANUARY 29, 2021

A RESOLUTION

1 Designating February 15, 2021, as "Plastic Pollution Awareness
2 Day" in Pennsylvania.

3 WHEREAS, More than 8 billion metric tons of plastic has been
4 produced globally since the 1950s; and

5 WHEREAS, Of the 8 billion metric tons of plastic produced,
6 approximately 6.3 billion metric tons of that has been turned
7 into waste; and

8 WHEREAS, Only 9% of plastic waste has been recycled and 12%
9 has been incinerated, with the rest winding up in landfills,
10 rivers and oceans; and

11 WHEREAS, Between 60% and 80% of all marine litter is plastic,
12 with more than 5 trillion pieces of plastic in our oceans; and

13 WHEREAS, Plastic pollution costs \$13 billion in economic
14 damage to marine systems globally each year; and

15 WHEREAS, Half of all plastic has been manufactured and
16 produced in the last 15 years; and

17 WHEREAS, Studies show that even with comprehensive recycling

1 plans in place globally, there could be 710 million metric tons
2 of plastic on our planet by 2040; and

3 WHEREAS, Single-use plastics account for 40% of all plastic
4 production each year; and

5 WHEREAS, Commonwealth consumers and retailers should be
6 encouraged to use paper straws, reusable bags and other
7 environmentally friendly alternatives to single-use disposable
8 plastic products; and

9 WHEREAS, Commonwealth businesses should strive to reduce
10 their plastic footprint by developing and adopting improved
11 environmental best practices; and

12 WHEREAS, The health and welfare of the environment and
13 resources of this Commonwealth depend, in great measure, upon
14 the dedication of private and corporate residents working
15 together to achieve the common goal of sustainability; therefore
16 be it

17 RESOLVED, That the House of Representatives designate
18 February 15, 2021, as "Plastic Pollution Awareness Day" in
19 Pennsylvania; and be it further

20 RESOLVED, That residents of this Commonwealth consider a
21 pledge to honor "Plastic Pollution Awareness Day" by
22 volunteering on that day to aid in the cleanup efforts of local
23 streets, rivers, lakes or beaches and refusing to use single-use
24 disposable plastic products.