
THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF PENNSYLVANIA

HOUSE RESOLUTION

No. 79 Session of
2013

INTRODUCED BY R. BROWN, BAKER, BARRAR, V. BROWN, CALTAGIRONE, CAUSER, COHEN, CONKLIN, D. COSTA, SCHLEGEL CULVER, DAY, DIGIROLAMO, EMRICK, EVERETT, FABRIZIO, FLECK, FRANKEL, GABLER, GINGRICH, GROVE, HAHN, HARHART, C. HARRIS, HENNESSEY, HESS, HICKERNELL, KNOWLES, KORTZ, LONGIETTI, MACKENZIE, MAHONEY, MAJOR, MARSHALL, MARSICO, MCNEILL, MICOZZIE, MOUL, MURT, MUSTIO, O'BRIEN, PEIFER, PETRI, PICKETT, RAVENSTAHL, READSHAW, ROSS, SCHLOSSBERG, SONNEY, VEREB, WATSON, YOUNGBLOOD, ADOLPH, DEASY AND GILLEN, FEBRUARY 11, 2013

INTRODUCED AS NONCONTROVERSIAL RESOLUTION UNDER RULE 35,
FEBRUARY 11, 2013

A RESOLUTION

1 Recognizing November 2013 as "Carbon Monoxide Awareness Month"
2 in Pennsylvania.

3 WHEREAS, Carbon monoxide is produced by furnaces, common
4 household appliances, vehicles, generators, fireplaces and other
5 systems that are powered by the burning of fuel, including
6 natural gas, propane, gasoline, oil and wood; and

7 WHEREAS, November is the best time to raise awareness for
8 carbon monoxide poisoning as the threat of exposure increases as
9 people stay indoors and burn more fuel to heat their homes
10 during the winter months; and

11 WHEREAS, Carbon monoxide is known as "the silent killer"
12 because it is a colorless, odorless and tasteless poisonous gas
13 that can be fatal when inhaled; and

14 WHEREAS, A 2007 study by the Centers for Disease Control and

1 Prevention found that Pennsylvania leads the nation in
2 accidental carbon monoxide poisoning deaths; and

3 WHEREAS, The Centers for Disease Control and Prevention has
4 determined that carbon monoxide claims approximately 50 lives
5 each year and that carbon monoxide exposure sends more than
6 20,000 people to emergency rooms annually; and

7 WHEREAS, The Mayo Clinic has determined that 51% of all
8 carbon monoxide poisoning cases reported involve children six
9 years of age and younger; and

10 WHEREAS, The Consumer Product Safety Commission has
11 determined that older adults more frequently have preexisting
12 health conditions that affect the heart, lungs and circulatory
13 system, and the presence of one or more of these conditions
14 lowers a victim's tolerance and increases the risk of fatal
15 carbon monoxide exposure; and

16 WHEREAS, A January 2006 article in the Journal of the
17 American Medical Association showed that, for individuals who
18 were involved in carbon monoxide poisoning and survived, there
19 was a three-fold increase in coronary artery disease seven years
20 later when compared with patients who were not poisoned; and

21 WHEREAS, The Carbon Monoxide Health and Safety Association
22 has determined that the combined medical cost of carbon monoxide
23 accidents, lost productivity and lost wages amounts to \$8.8
24 billion per year; and

25 WHEREAS, Public education and awareness about carbon monoxide
26 poisonings are critical to protecting residents of Pennsylvania
27 from the dangers of this deadly gas and the risk factors in the
28 home; and

29 WHEREAS, Carbon monoxide alarms have been determined to be
30 the most effective way to detect carbon monoxide, and there is a

1 dramatic correlation between carbon monoxide alarm ordinances in
2 cities and lower death rates from carbon monoxide; therefore be
3 it

4 RESOLVED, That the House of Representatives recognize
5 November 2013 as "Carbon Monoxide Awareness Month" in
6 Pennsylvania.