
THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF PENNSYLVANIA

HOUSE RESOLUTION

No. 215 Session of
2023

INTRODUCED BY MARCELL, HOGAN, BOROWSKI, CAUSER, CIRESI, GREINER,
HAMM, HILL-EVANS, KAUFFMAN, KHAN, LABS, R. MACKENZIE,
MCNEILL, MOUL, PICKETT, SAMUELSON, STAATS AND STRUZZI,
SEPTEMBER 21, 2023

REFERRED TO COMMITTEE ON VETERANS AFFAIRS AND EMERGENCY
PREPAREDNESS, SEPTEMBER 21, 2023

A RESOLUTION

1 Recognizing the week of October 8 through 14, 2023, as "Fire
2 Prevention Week'" in Pennsylvania.

3 WHEREAS, Fire is a serious public safety concern both locally
4 and nationally, and homes are the locations where people are at
5 greatest risk from fire; and

6 WHEREAS, Home fires killed more than 2,800 people in the
7 United States in 2021, according to the National Fire Protection
8 Association® (NFPA®), and fire departments in the United States
9 responded to 338,000 home fires; and

10 WHEREAS, Cooking is the leading cause of home fires in the
11 United States, and fire departments responded to more than
12 166,400 annually between 2016 and 2020; and

13 WHEREAS, Two of every five home fires start in the kitchen
14 with 31% of these fires resulting from unattended cooking; and

15 WHEREAS, More than one-half of reported nonfatal home cooking
16 fire injuries occurred when the victims tried to fight the fire

1 themselves; and

2 WHEREAS, Children under five years of age face a higher risk
3 of nonfire burns associated with cooking than being burned in a
4 cooking fire; and

5 WHEREAS, Pennsylvania residents should turn pot handles
6 toward the back of the stove; always keep a lid nearby when
7 cooking; keep a three-foot kid-free zone around the stove, oven
8 and other things that could get hot; watch what they heat; and
9 set a timer to remind them that they are cooking; and

10 WHEREAS, Residents who have planned and practiced a home fire
11 escape plan are more prepared and will therefore be more likely
12 to survive a fire; and

13 WHEREAS, Working smoke alarms cut the risk of dying in
14 reported home fires almost in half; and

15 WHEREAS, Pennsylvania residents are responsive to public
16 education measures and are able to take personal steps to
17 increase their safety from fire, especially in their homes; and

18 WHEREAS, The 2023 "Fire Prevention Week" theme, "Cooking
19 Safety Starts With YOU. Pay Attention To Fire Prevention",
20 effectively serves to remind us to stay alert and use caution
21 when cooking to reduce the risk of kitchen fires; and

22 WHEREAS, Promoting this theme provides an ideal opportunity
23 to educate the public of the danger fire poses in home kitchens
24 throughout this Commonwealth; and

25 WHEREAS, This Commonwealth's first responders exhibit great
26 dedication to reducing the occurrence of home fires and home
27 fire injuries through prevention and protection education and
28 through their quick response to emergencies; therefore be it

29 RESOLVED, That the House of Representatives recognize the
30 week of October 8 through 14, 2023, as "Fire Prevention Week"

1 in Pennsylvania; and be it further

2 RESOLVED, That the House of Representatives urge all
3 residents, landlords and businesses to protect their property by
4 heeding the important safety messages of "Fire Prevention Week"
5 which can be found on the NFPA® publicly accessible Internet
6 website; and be it further

7 RESOLVED, That the House of Representatives commend all
8 firefighters, other first responders and all who provide support
9 for their efforts to prevent, fight and stop fires.