
THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF PENNSYLVANIA

HOUSE RESOLUTION

No. 46 Session of
2023

INTRODUCED BY WEBSTER, HILL-EVANS, MADDEN, BRENNAN, SANCHEZ,
DELLOSO, BURGOS, CIRESI, KHAN AND WARREN, MARCH 24, 2023

REFERRED TO COMMITTEE ON ENVIRONMENTAL RESOURCES AND ENERGY,
MARCH 24, 2023

A RESOLUTION

1 Directing the Joint State Government Commission to conduct a
2 study on the economic costs of flooding on residential homes
3 and businesses in this Commonwealth.

4 WHEREAS, Flooding causes billions of dollars of damage and
5 destroys thousands of homes all over the United States; and

6 WHEREAS, Flooding is the most common natural disaster in
7 Pennsylvania; and

8 WHEREAS, According to the Federal Emergency Management
9 Agency, just one inch of water can cause approximately \$25,000
10 in damage to a home or business; and

11 WHEREAS, Pennsylvania has experienced at least three major
12 flooding events in the past 20 years, including Hurricane Ivan
13 in 2004, Tropical Storm Lee in 2011 and Hurricane Ida in 2021;
14 and

15 WHEREAS, Hurricanes Ivan and Ida, along with Tropical Storm
16 Lee, caused a combined total of more than \$600 million in
17 property damage; and

18 WHEREAS, In Pennsylvania, 24 counties have an average of one

1 flood event per year; and

2 WHEREAS, There is no singular agency or entity that tracks
3 and logs property damage done to residential homes and
4 businesses as a result of flood damage; and

5 WHEREAS, It is important to know how much flooding-related
6 damage has been done and where the damage has typically occurred
7 so that the Commonwealth may better target future prevention and
8 relief efforts; therefore be it

9 RESOLVED, That the House of Representatives direct the Joint
10 State Government Commission to conduct a study on the economic
11 costs of flooding on residential homes and businesses in this
12 Commonwealth; and be it further

13 RESOLVED, That the study:

14 (1) Focus primarily on data available for the past 20
15 years.

16 (2) Identify trends in the costs, locations and types of
17 damage flooding causes.

18 (3) Include recommendations on how the Commonwealth can
19 better track and log property damage from flooding.

20 (4) Include recommendations on how the Commonwealth can
21 better target future flooding-related prevention and relief
22 efforts;

23 and be it further

24 RESOLVED, That the Joint State Government Commission issue a
25 report of its findings and recommendations and submit the report
26 to the General Assembly no later than 12 months after the
27 adoption of this resolution.