A RESOLUTION

Urging the Federal Government to prioritize and consider the need for resilient infrastructure to reduce risks and meet the country's economic, environmental and social needs.

WHEREAS, Our nation's infrastructure faces increasing vulnerability due to the impacts of severe weather, rising population and changing land-use patterns; and

WHEREAS, Since 2000, flood-related disasters have caused more than $841 billion in losses around the country; and

WHEREAS, Flooding in the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania is the single greatest cause of property loss due to natural disasters and this Commonwealth's numerous rivers and creeks make Pennsylvania one of the most flood-prone states in the nation; and

WHEREAS, Between 2000 and 2018, 21 Federal disasters and emergencies were declared as a result of floods, hurricanes and severe storms in Pennsylvania, requiring more than $750 million in total assistance from the United States Government; and

WHEREAS, The need to incorporate resilience into any
comprehensive infrastructure package is underscored by the American Society of Civil Engineers' recent grade of D+ for the nation's infrastructure, and an estimated $4.6 trillion is needed to repair key sectors of infrastructure across this country; and

WHEREAS, Over 250 elected officials from across the United States signed a Flood-Ready Infrastructure Statement of Principles supporting resilient infrastructure that will:

(1) improve resiliency requirements for buildings and infrastructure systems built before and after flood-related catastrophes;

(2) enhance the use of natural defenses in planning and preparedness; and

(3) reduce unsustainable development in high risk areas; and

WHEREAS, More than 500 small to medium sized businesses from across the country signed a letter to the Federal Government calling for a modernized flood-ready standard for federally-funded construction projects; and

WHEREAS, A bipartisan coalition of leading business groups, labor unions and elected officials at all levels of government continue to annually recognize the need for safer, stronger and sustainable infrastructure; and

WHEREAS, Members of the Congress of the United States and the current presidential administration have indicated that addressing infrastructure will be a priority in the coming year, especially as the nation prepares for the 2019 hurricane season; therefore be it

RESOLVED, That the House of Representatives of the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania urge the Federal Government to
consider the need for resilient infrastructure to reduce risks and meet the country's economic, environmental and social needs; and be it further RESOLVED, That copies of this resolution be transmitted to the President of the United States, the presiding officers of each house of Congress, the director of the Federal Emergency Management Agency and the members of the Pennsylvania Congressional Delegation.