

THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF PENNSYLVANIA

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# HOUSE RESOLUTION

No. 324 Session of  
1992

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INTRODUCED BY S. H. SMITH, STUBAN, SURRA, HECKLER, MELIO,  
MARSICO, TRELLO, JOHNSON, GERLACH, TELEK, TOMLINSON, KING,  
ITKIN, STEELMAN AND PETRONE, MAY 18, 1992

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REFERRED TO COMMITTEE ON RULES, MAY 18, 1992

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## A RESOLUTION

1 Directing the Professional Licensure Committee and the Aging and  
2 Youth Committee to jointly hold public hearings on problems  
3 with professional licensees who are mandated reporters under  
4 23 Pa.C.S. Ch. 63 (relating to child protective services).

5 WHEREAS, The House of Representatives has become aware of  
6 allegations of inconsistency between professional regulatory  
7 boards' disciplinary rules and policies and reporting provisions  
8 under 23 Pa.C.S. Ch. 63 (relating to child protective services);  
9 and

10 WHEREAS, At least one mandated reporter is believed by peers  
11 to have been prosecuted by a regulatory board in the Bureau of  
12 Professional and Occupational Affairs as a result of good-faith  
13 compliance under 23 Pa.C.S. Ch. 63, and other licensed mandated  
14 reporters fear that disciplinary action may also be taken  
15 against them as a result of complying with the requirements of  
16 23 Pa.C.S. Ch. 63; and

17 WHEREAS, The House of Representatives has attempted  
18 unsuccessfully to obtain legal guidelines from the Department of

1 State for use of the appropriate licensing boards in  
2 adjudication of these matters; and

3 WHEREAS, As rumors and fears grow, concerns exist that  
4 incidents of child abuse may go unreported and that children may  
5 undergo serious harm as a result of the situation remaining  
6 unsolved; therefore be it

7 RESOLVED, That the House of Representatives direct the  
8 Professional Licensure Committee and the Aging and Youth  
9 Committee to jointly conduct one or more hearings, as the  
10 committees may determine, to investigate this serious matter;  
11 and be it further

12 RESOLVED, That the committees may hold hearings, take  
13 testimony and make their investigations at such places as they  
14 deem necessary in this Commonwealth. Each member of the  
15 committees shall have power to administer oaths and affirmations  
16 to witnesses appearing before the committees; and be it further

17 RESOLVED, That the committees shall report to the House of  
18 Representatives on their activities, findings and  
19 recommendations as soon as practicable and shall issue interim  
20 reports to the House of Representatives as the committees deem  
21 necessary.