

THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF PENNSYLVANIA

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# HOUSE RESOLUTION

## No. 287

Session of  
1976

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INTRODUCED BY PYLES, JUNE 30, 1976

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REFERRED TO COMMITTEE ON RULES, JUNE 30, 1976

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In the House of Representatives, June 30, 1976

1 WHEREAS, The ability of local governments to raise adequate  
2 revenues is gravely restricted by their limited taxing powers;  
3 and

4 WHEREAS, Property taxes, the mainstay of municipal revenues,  
5 fail to keep pace with the increasing revenue needs; and

6 WHEREAS, The demands on local government for public services  
7 have multiplied in recent years and will continue to grow  
8 rapidly; and

9 WHEREAS, State mandated new programs and expanded services  
10 have imposed additional financial burdens on municipalities,  
11 over which they have no control; and

12 WHEREAS, Local indebtedness has increased substantially  
13 during the past decade and will continue to rise; and

14 WHEREAS, The concept of State Revenue Sharing appears to be a  
15 solution to the dilemma presently facing local government;  
16 therefore be it

17 RESOLVED, That the Speaker of the House of Representatives  
18 direct the Local Government Commission to study and investigate

1 the possibilities of a State Revenue Sharing Plan and to  
2 recommend legislation beneficial to local government; and be it  
3 further

4       RESOLVED, That the committee may hold hearings, take  
5 testimony, and make its investigations at such places as it  
6 deems necessary. It may issue subpoenas under the hand and seal  
7 of its chairman commanding any person to appear before it and to  
8 answer questions touching matters properly being inquired into  
9 by the committee and to produce such books, papers, records and  
10 documents as the committee deems necessary. Such subpoenas may  
11 be served upon any person and shall have the force and effect of  
12 subpoenas issued out of the courts of this Commonwealth. Any  
13 person who willfully neglects or refuses to testify before the  
14 committee or to produce any books, papers, records or documents,  
15 shall be subject to the penalties provided by the laws of the  
16 Commonwealth in such case. Each member of the committee shall  
17 have power to administer oaths and affirmations to witnesses  
18 appearing before the committee; and be it further

19       RESOLVED, That within 30 calendar days after the committee  
20 has made its report, the chairman of the committee shall cause a  
21 record of all expenses incurred by the committee, or the members  
22 thereof, which are payable at Commonwealth expense, to be filed  
23 with the Speaker of the House and the Speaker shall cause the  
24 same to be entered in the journal thereof. No expenses incurred  
25 by the committee or any member thereof shall be reimbursable by  
26 the Chief Clerk unless such expense shall first have been  
27 included as an expense item in the record heretofore required;  
28 and be it further

29       RESOLVED, That the committee report its findings and proposed  
30 legislation, if such be necessary, to the General Assembly as

1 soon as possible.