
THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF PENNSYLVANIA

HOUSE RESOLUTION

No. 89

Session of
1977

INTRODUCED BY RICHARDSON, DUMAS, WILLIAMS, WIGGINS, BARBER,
OLIVER, KELLY, WHITE AND JOHNSON, APRIL 20, 1977

REFERRED TO COMMITTEE ON RULES, APRIL 25, 1977

In the House of Representatives, April 20, 1977

1 WHEREAS, A serious situation at the West Philadelphia
2 Community Mental Health Consortium, Inc. (hereinafter called
3 Consortium) has been brought to the attention of the public and
4 certain members of the House of Representatives; and

5 WHEREAS, Some questions have arisen over the financial
6 operations of the Consortium during the past five years; and

7 WHEREAS, The Consortium's personnel practices during the same
8 period are also questioned; and

9 WHEREAS, The decisions of the current management and board in
10 regard to the lay-off of consultation and education staff
11 members and the elimination of the Volunteer Services Program
12 should be investigated; and

13 WHEREAS, The election of the Consortium board members held on
14 May 25, 1976 has been questioned; and

15 WHEREAS, The relationship of the Consortium to the community
16 in which it operates should also be investigated; therefore be
17 it

1 RESOLVED, That the House of Representatives direct the
2 Speaker of the House to order the House Health and Welfare
3 Committee to begin an immediate investigation of the West
4 Philadelphia Community Mental Health Consortium, Inc. in order
5 to determine the validity of the numerous and far reaching
6 allegations against this institution, and to recommend, for
7 consideration by this House, a solution for the problems of this
8 institution; and be it further

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

24 RESOLVED, That within 30 calendar days after the committee
25 has made its report, the chairman of the committee shall cause a
26 record of all expenses incurred by the committee, or the members
27 thereof, which are payable at Commonwealth expense, to be filed
28 with the Speaker of the House and the Speaker shall cause the
29 same to be entered in the journal thereof. No expenses incurred
30 by the committee or any member thereof shall be reimbursable by

1 the Chief Clerk unless such expense shall first have been
2 included as an expense item in the record heretofore required;
3 and be it further

4 RESOLVED, That the committee report its findings to the House
5 of Representatives as soon as possible.