
THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF PENNSYLVANIA

HOUSE RESOLUTION

No. 114

Session of
1985

INTRODUCED BY DEAL, MAY 28, 1985

REFERRED TO COMMITTEE ON RULES, MAY 28, 1985

A RESOLUTION

1 Providing for a select committee to investigate the actions of
2 the City of Philadelphia in the attempt to apprehend members
3 of an organization known as MOVE in a house in West
4 Philadelphia.

5 WHEREAS, Pursuant to the issuance of warrants and subsequent
6 to complaints from residents of West Philadelphia that members
7 of an organization known as MOVE were posing a severe threat to
8 public health and safety, the City of Philadelphia attempted to
9 apprehend members of MOVE; and

10 WHEREAS, A Pennsylvania State Police helicopter, working in
11 conjunction with the Philadelphia Police Department, dropped an
12 explosive device on a Philadelphia house occupied by members of
13 MOVE; and

14 WHEREAS, As a result of this incident, four children were
15 among the 11 persons killed; and

16 WHEREAS, During this incident, 61 houses were burned to the
17 ground, leaving innocent victims without property and homes; and

18 WHEREAS, The Commonwealth has the responsibility to protect

1 its citizens from such catastrophic incidents; and

2 WHEREAS, It is important that all aspects of this incident be
3 investigated to determine the cause of the incident, the manner
4 in which those in authority responded, how to prevent a
5 recurrence, and what can be done to aid the innocent victims;
6 therefore be it

7 RESOLVED, That the Speaker of the House of Representatives
8 appoint a select committee to investigate the actions of the
9 City of Philadelphia in the attempt to apprehend members of an
10 organization known as MOVE in a house in West Philadelphia. The
11 committee shall consist of seven members, four from the majority
12 party and three from the minority party; and be it further

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

18 RESOLVED, That the committee report its findings and
19 recommendations to the House of Representatives as soon as
20 possible.