

THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF PENNSYLVANIA

HOUSE RESOLUTION

No. 39

Session of
1995

INTRODUCED BY O'BRIEN, TRUE, HERSHEY, WOGAN, DEMPSEY,
D. R. WRIGHT, MCGEEHAN, TRELLO, CIVERA, WAUGH, J. TAYLOR,
L. I. COHEN, MELIO, ZUG, LYNCH, CURRY, HORSEY, BELFANTI AND
CAPPABIANCA, JANUARY 31, 1995

REFERRED TO COMMITTEE ON RULES, JANUARY 31, 1995

A RESOLUTION

1 Directing the Urban Affairs Committee, in cooperation with the
2 Military and Veterans Affairs Committee, to conduct a study
3 on the feasibility of using airship technology to assist
4 police agencies to combat crime.

5 WHEREAS, Crime is a major problem facing this Commonwealth's
6 municipalities, especially in its urban areas; and

7 WHEREAS, To effectively combat crime, it is important that
8 State and local police have the latest technology available; and

9 WHEREAS, In addition to crime surveillance, the innovative
10 use of airship technology has the potential of assisting police
11 agencies in this Commonwealth with disaster control, aerial
12 searches, traffic control and monitoring, police training and
13 many other police and fire activities related to public safety;
14 and

15 WHEREAS, Airships are also capable of performing a variety of
16 nonpolice and nonpublic safety-related activities of value to
17 this Commonwealth's municipalities, universities and State
18 agencies, including, but not limited to, environmental and

1 scientific research, traffic and planning studies and aerial
2 photography; therefore be it

3 RESOLVED, That the House of Representatives direct the Urban
4 Affairs Committee, in cooperation with the Military and Veterans
5 Affairs Committee, to conduct a thorough study of the
6 feasibility of using airship technology to assist State and
7 local police agencies in this Commonwealth to combat crime; and
8 be it further

9 RESOLVED, That the study:

10 (1) review how airship technology might assist existing
11 State agencies and universities in the performance of their
12 State-mandated duties and responsibilities;

13 (2) review how airship technology might assist elected
14 municipal officials in this Commonwealth, especially in the
15 larger urban centers, including Pittsburgh and Philadelphia,
16 in the performance of their mandated duties and
17 responsibilities in areas, including, but not limited to,
18 public safety;

19 (3) review any legal impediments to the use of airship
20 technology in this Commonwealth;

21 (4) estimate the cost to the Commonwealth to provide
22 airship service by purchase, lease or a combination thereof
23 for State and municipal activities and uses which may be
24 deemed valid and feasible by the study;

25 (5) include recommendations concerning the feasibility
26 of the joint usage of airship services, if available, by
27 State agencies, universities, municipalities and neighboring
28 states;

29 (6) consider the need for a demonstration project to
30 validate the usefulness of airship technology for all State

1 and local uses the Urban Affairs Committee and the Military
2 and Veterans Affairs Committee conclude may be feasible;

3 (7) estimate the cost of such a demonstration project
4 and the availability of Federal, State and private sector
5 financial resources to fund the study; and

6 (8) contract for and supervise a demonstration project
7 if adequate funding is available;

8 and be it further

9 RESOLVED, That the Urban Affairs Committee report its
10 findings to the House of Representatives as soon as possible.