

THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF PENNSYLVANIA

# HOUSE RESOLUTION

No. 824 Session of  
2008

INTRODUCED BY WHEATLEY, BISHOP, BRENNAN, CALTAGIRONE, COHEN,  
FRANKEL, GINGRICH, GRUCELA, HERSHEY, JAMES, JOSEPHS,  
KIRKLAND, KORTZ, KOTIK, KULA, LEVDANSKY, MELIO, MUNDY, MURT,  
MYERS, PARKER, READSHAW, SCAVELLO, SIPTROTH, THOMAS AND  
YOUNGBLOOD, JUNE 25, 2008

REFERRED TO COMMITTEE ON CHILDREN AND YOUTH, JUNE 25, 2008

## A RESOLUTION

1 Directing the Legislative Budget and Finance Committee to  
2 prepare a report on the availability of after-school  
3 programming and the after-school needs of children and youth  
4 in this Commonwealth.

5 WHEREAS, Nearly 1.8 million school-age children and youths in  
6 this Commonwealth return from school to a home where each parent  
7 and youth is absent due to employment outside the home; and

8 WHEREAS, These children spend an average of more than six  
9 hours per week unsupervised after school; and

10 WHEREAS, According to the national report "America after 3  
11 P.M.," 26% of youths not in after-school programs would be  
12 likely to participate if an after-school program were available  
13 in the community; and

14 WHEREAS, Just 8% of children in Pennsylvania working families  
15 are in after-school programs, while 28% of children in  
16 Pennsylvania working families are "latchkey kids" with no adult  
17 supervision in the afternoon; and

1 WHEREAS, After-school programs provide safe, challenging,  
2 engaging and fun learning experiences to help children and youth  
3 develop their academic, cultural, emotional, physical and social  
4 skills; and

5 WHEREAS, Children and youth who regularly attend high-quality  
6 after-school programs have better grades and conduct in school,  
7 more academic and enrichment opportunities and better peer  
8 relations and emotional adjustment; and

9 WHEREAS, Teens who do not participate in after-school  
10 programs are also three times more likely to engage in risky  
11 behavior, including drug and alcohol use, smoking and sexual  
12 activity; and

13 WHEREAS, After-school programs are supported with private and  
14 public funds, both Federal and State, including 21st Century  
15 Community Learning Centers, subsidized child care, school-age  
16 child care, work force investment boards, ELECT Student Works  
17 and tutoring programs; therefore be it

18 RESOLVED, That the House of Representatives direct the  
19 Legislative Budget and Finance Committee to prepare a report on  
20 the after-school needs of children and youth in this  
21 Commonwealth; and be it further

22 RESOLVED, That the report assess the after-school  
23 opportunities for children and youth and their families and  
24 include:

25 (1) A review of the availability, types and locations of  
26 after-school programs across this Commonwealth.

27 (2) Geographical gaps where there are not available,  
28 affordable and accessible after-school programs for children  
29 and youth across this Commonwealth.

30 (3) Statistical information on the number of children and

1 youths currently being served in after-school programs.

2 (4) The cost per child to provide various types of high-  
3 quality after-school programming.

4 (5) The extent to which public funding is available by  
5 funding stream for after-school programming.

6 (6) The extent to which private funding, both parent fees  
7 and corporate and foundation grants, are available for after-  
8 school programs;

9 and be it further

10 RESOLVED, That the Legislative Budget and Finance Committee  
11 report its findings and recommendations to the Children and  
12 Youth Committee of the House of Representatives and the  
13 Appropriations Committee of the House of Representatives no  
14 later than 12 months after adoption of this resolution.