

THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF PENNSYLVANIA

# HOUSE RESOLUTION

No. 180 Session of 2009

INTRODUCED BY WANSACZ, BURNS, CUTLER, EVERETT, GALLOWAY,  
HORNAMAN, KORTZ, MAHONEY, MCILVAINE SMITH, MELIO, MIRABITO,  
MURPHY, MURT, MUSTIO, READSHAW, SCAVELLO, K. SMITH, STABACK,  
R. TAYLOR AND WALKO, MARCH 23, 2009

REFERRED TO COMMITTEE ON STATE GOVERNMENT, MARCH 23, 2009

## A RESOLUTION

1 Directing the Legislative Budget and Finance Committee to  
2 conduct a study of the logistics and cost savings associated  
3 with merging the duties of the Department of Conservation and  
4 Natural Resources with the Department of Environmental  
5 Protection, as well as the logistics and cost savings  
6 associated with reassigning the duties of the Department of  
7 Health to the Department of Labor and Industry and the  
8 Department of Environmental Protection.

9 WHEREAS, As Governor Rendell noted in his 2009 budget  
10 address, the economic crisis we currently confront forces us to  
11 consider good ideas from every possible source, and there is no  
12 corner on the marketplace of ideas when it comes to saving  
13 taxpayer dollars and improving the productivity and  
14 responsiveness of every level of government; and

15 WHEREAS, In an effort to face this crisis head on, Governor  
16 Rendell asked local governments and school districts to embrace  
17 initiatives, including merger and consolidation, that will  
18 improve the level of services we deliver to the public and also  
19 dramatically reduce the cost of government; and

20 WHEREAS, State government has a responsibility to lead by

1 example and can do so by reviewing our own operations and  
2 identifying ways in which the cost of providing State government  
3 services can be significantly reduced if certain cabinet level  
4 departments join forces to share a host of administrative  
5 services; and

6 WHEREAS, It seems prudent to study how best to rightsize  
7 various State agencies and stop spending taxpayers' funds on  
8 redundant administrative costs, starting with the Department of  
9 Conservation and Natural Resources and the Department of Health;  
10 therefore be it

11 RESOLVED, That the House of Representatives direct the  
12 Legislative Budget and Finance Committee to conduct a study of  
13 the logistics and cost savings associated with merging the  
14 duties of the Department of Conservation and Natural Resources  
15 with the Department of Environmental Protection into one State  
16 agency; and be it further

17 RESOLVED, That the House of Representatives direct the  
18 Legislative Budget and Finance Committee to conduct a study of  
19 the logistics and cost savings associated with reassigning the  
20 duties of the Department of Health among the various State  
21 agencies with a focus on the Department of Labor and Industry  
22 and the Department of Environmental Protection; and be it  
23 further

24 RESOLVED, That the committee report its findings, along with  
25 recommendations as appropriate, which shall be submitted to the  
26 House of Representatives within six months of adoption of this  
27 resolution.