

THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF PENNSYLVANIA

HOUSE RESOLUTION

No. 532 Session of
2009

INTRODUCED BY HESS, PHILLIPS, GEIST, STERN, FLECK, BEYER,
CALTAGIRONE, CHRISTIANA, COHEN, D. COSTA, GOODMAN, M. KELLER,
KULA, MANN, MILLER, MILNE, MUNDY, PICKETT, READSHAW,
REICHLEY, SIPTROTH, SWANGER, TRUE, VULAKOVICH AND WATSON,
NOVEMBER 12, 2009

REFERRED TO COMMITTEE ON HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES, NOVEMBER 12,
2009

A RESOLUTION

1 Urging the Department of Health to revise its disease monitoring
2 practices in this Commonwealth.

3 WHEREAS, Methicillin-resistant Staphylococcus aureus (MRSA)
4 is a bacterial infection that is highly resistant to some
5 antibiotics, and

6 WHEREAS, MRSA infection is fairly common and most of it does
7 not have public health consequences; and

8 WHEREAS, MRSA infections can lead to invasive disease of the
9 joints, organs or bloodstream, which can be serious; and

10 WHEREAS, MRSA illness can be transmitted within the community
11 in settings like schools, correctional facilities or athletic
12 settings; and

13 WHEREAS, Public health intervention in the community can help
14 stop the spread of the disease; and

15 WHEREAS, The Department of Health regulations are not
16 consistent in that they require the reporting of chicken pox,

1 while ignoring MRSA; therefore be it

2 RESOLVED, That the House of Representatives urge the
3 Department of Health to publish revisions to its regulations on
4 disease monitoring practices in this Commonwealth; and be it
5 further

6 RESOLVED, That the surveillance of Methicillin-resistant
7 Staphylococcus aureus in community settings be addressed in the
8 new regulation; and be it further

9 RESOLVED, That the new regulation should treat Methicillin-
10 resistant Staphylococcus aureus infections as seriously as
11 chicken pox; and be it further

12 RESOLVED, That the Department of Health promulgate the new
13 regulation as proposed rulemaking within 90 days.