

THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF PENNSYLVANIA

HOUSE RESOLUTION

No. 893 Session of 2015

INTRODUCED BY READSHAW, BARBIN, PAYNE, CALTAGIRONE, HARPER, FREEMAN, D. COSTA, VEREB, COHEN, PASHINSKI, TAYLOR, ROTHMAN, KIRKLAND, HEFFLEY, WARD, JAMES, SCHLOSSBERG, McNEILL, V. BROWN, DRISCOLL, NEILSON, O'BRIEN, DONATUCCI, GIBBONS, SAYLOR, STAATS, MILNE, BURNS, GABLER, GINGRICH AND MAJOR, MAY 18, 2016

AS REPORTED FROM COMMITTEE ON HUMAN SERVICES, HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES, AS AMENDED, JUNE 13, 2016

A RESOLUTION

1 Directing the Joint State Government Commission to conduct a
2 study and publish a report on the benefits, costs and
3 drawbacks of alternative opioid dependence treatment programs
4 that utilize Federal Food and Drug Administration-approved
5 medications.

6 WHEREAS, Pennsylvania families are at the front lines of the
7 opiate epidemic in this Commonwealth, with approximately seven
8 individuals dying each day from opioid-induced overdoses; and

9 WHEREAS, The opioid problem in this Commonwealth has grown to
10 epidemic proportions and is a major health hazard for all
11 Pennsylvanians; and

12 WHEREAS, We, as a community, must stop simply talking about
13 the issue and begin looking for viable options to combat this
14 disease and provide individuals with all avenues for recovery;
15 therefore be it

16 RESOLVED, That the House of Representatives direct the Joint
17 State Government Commission to conduct a study and publish a

1 report on the benefits, costs and drawbacks of alternative
2 opioid dependence treatment programs that utilize Federal Food
3 and Drug Administration-approved medications; and be it further
4 RESOLVED, That the Joint State Government Commission examine
5 the following for its study:

6 (1) The effectiveness of treating opioid dependence with
7 alternate medications, including the three Federal Food and
8 Drug Administration-approved medications: methadone,
9 naltrexone and buprenorphine.

10 (2) The number of treatment providers that are currently
11 using all three Federal Food and Drug Administration-
12 approved medications for the treatment of opioid dependence.

13 (3) The effectiveness of alternative treatments,
14 including, but not limited to, positive reinforcement
15 therapy.

16 (4) The current standards of care that opioid dependence
17 treatment providers are following in this Commonwealth.

18 (5) The costs associated with opioid dependence
19 treatments.

20 (6) Potential positive and negative outcomes of each
21 opioid dependence treatment.

22 (7) How surrounding states are combating opioid
23 dependence in comparison with the current methods in this
24 Commonwealth.

25 (8) The feasibility of reopening closed State hospitals
26 as opioid dependence treatment facilities;
27 and be it further

28 RESOLVED, That the Joint State Government Commission include
29 in its report its findings from the study and any
30 recommendations; and be it further

1 RESOLVED, That the Joint State Government Commission issue
2 its report to the General Assembly within ~~six~~ NINE months of the <--
3 adoption of this resolution.