
THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF PENNSYLVANIA

SENATE RESOLUTION

No. 384 Session of
2018

INTRODUCED BY SCHWANK, ARGALL, BROWNE, GORDNER, HUGHES, WARD,
STREET, FOLMER, KILLION, SABATINA, WHITE, AUMENT AND BLAKE,
JUNE 11, 2018

REFERRED TO AGRICULTURE AND RURAL AFFAIRS, JUNE 11, 2018

A RESOLUTION

1 Directing the Legislative Budget and Finance Committee to
2 conduct a study and issue a report making recommendations for
3 initiatives to assist dairy producers in this Commonwealth.

4 WHEREAS, Years of lower milk prices and decreasing sales of
5 packaged beverage milk products have placed dairy producers in
6 this Commonwealth and others across the country under severe
7 financial stress; and

8 WHEREAS, Many dairy producers in this Commonwealth and
9 across the country are forced to borrow against the equity in
10 their farm to continue the dairy operations; and

11 WHEREAS, Due to these factors, the typical response to lower
12 milk prices, increasing production to increase revenue, no
13 longer provides sufficient economic relief and overall may add
14 to a milk surplus, adversely affecting the prices that the
15 producer receives; and

16 WHEREAS, Increasingly, dairy producers are forced to leave
17 dairy production due to the financial stress; therefore be it

18 RESOLVED, That the Senate direct the Legislative Budget and

1 Finance Committee to conduct a study and issue a report making
2 recommendations for measures to assist dairy producers in this
3 Commonwealth in response to decreasing demand for dairy products
4 and decreasing milk prices; and be it further

5 RESOLVED, That the Legislative Budget and Finance Committee
6 identify the measures proposed or undertaken by the Pennsylvania
7 Milk Marketing Board and the Pennsylvania Department of
8 Agriculture to assist dairy producers in this Commonwealth; and
9 be it further

10 RESOLVED, That the Legislative Budget and Finance Committee
11 identify and examine the statutes, best practices and proposed
12 measures of other states to assist their dairy producers during
13 these economic times; and be it further

14 RESOLVED, That the Legislative Budget and Finance Committee
15 identify current factors that contribute to the decrease in
16 dairy product consumption and milk prices; and be it further

17 RESOLVED, That the Legislative Budget and Finance Committee
18 identify the number and types of specialty dairy products, such
19 as lactose-free milk, that are sold in this Commonwealth by out-
20 of-state dairy producers and examine how milk produced in this
21 Commonwealth can be utilized to meet the increased demand for
22 this specialty dairy products market; and be it further

23 RESOLVED, That the Legislative Budget and Finance Committee
24 examine the testimony submitted at the public hearings held by
25 the Pennsylvania Milk Marketing Board regarding the Pennsylvania
26 dairy market; and be it further

27 RESOLVED, That the Legislative Budget and Finance Committee
28 report all findings and conclusions on this issue to the Senate
29 within 12 months of the adoption of this resolution.