
THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF PENNSYLVANIA

HOUSE RESOLUTION

No. 14

Session of
1973

INTRODUCED BY MR. SPENCER, JANUARY 22, 1973

REFERRED TO COMMITTEE ON RULES, JANUARY 22, 1973

In the House of Representatives, January 22, 1973

1 WHEREAS, The Blossburg State Hospital was created by act of
2 the General Assembly dated June 14, 1887; and

3 WHEREAS, The Board of Trustees for the Blossburg State
4 Hospital is empowered by law to manage and direct the concerns
5 of the hospital, make all necessary by-laws and regulations, and
6 transfer the hospital to an incorporated hospital association
7 representing the community in which the hospital is located; and

8 WHEREAS, On September 1, 1972, the Department of Public
9 Welfare closed the doors of the Blossburg State Hospital without
10 action by the Board of Trustees of the hospital; and

11 WHEREAS, Such action by the Department of Public Welfare has
12 forced one hundred gainfully employed persons out of work; and

13 WHEREAS, the Department of Public Welfare is negotiating with
14 a nonprofit corporation to supply health care services to the
15 community served by the Blossburg State Hospital; therefore be
16 it

17 RESOLVED, That a special legislative investigating committee

1 be appointed by the Speaker of the House, composed of four
2 members of the House Majority Caucus and three members of the
3 House Minority Caucus, to conduct a full and complete
4 investigation of the propriety and legality of the closing of
5 the Blossburg State Hospital by the Department of Public Welfare
6 and any and all contracts concerning health care services for
7 the community served by the Blossubrg State Hospital; and be it
8 further

9 RESOLVED, That the committee may hold hearings, take
10 testimony, and make its investigation at such places as it deems
11 necessary within this Commonwealth. It may issue subpoenas under
12 the hand and seal of its chairman commanding any person to
13 appear before it and to answer questions touching matters
14 properly being inquired into by the committee and to produce
15 such books, papers, records and documents as the committee deems
16 necessary. Such subpoenas may be served upon any person and
17 shall have the force and effect of subpoenas issued out of the
18 courts of this Commonwealth. Any person who wilfully neglects or
19 refuses to testify before the committee or to produce any books,
20 papers, records or documents, shall be subject to the penalties
21 provided by the laws of the Commonwealth in such case. Each
22 member of the committee shall have power to administer oaths and
23 affirmations to witnesses appearing before the committee; and be
24 it further

25 RESOLVED, That within thirty calendar days after the
26 committee has made its report, the chairman of the committee
27 shall cause a record of all expenses incurred by the committee,
28 or the members thereof, which are payable at Commonwealth
29 expense, to be filed with the Speaker of the House and the
30 Speaker shall cause the same to be entered in the journal

1 thereof. No expenses incurred by the committee or any member
2 thereof shall be reimbursable by the Chief Clerk unless such
3 expense shall first have been included as an expense item in the
4 record heretofore required; and be it further

5 RESOLVED, That the committee report its findings to the
6 General Assembly as soon as possible.