

THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF PENNSYLVANIA

# HOUSE RESOLUTION

No. 92

Session of  
1977

INTRODUCED BY PITTS, MORRIS, McCLATCHY, E. Z. TAYLOR,  
E. H. SMITH AND VROON, APRIL 26, 1977

REFERRED TO COMMITTEE ON RULES, APRIL 27, 1977

In the House of Representatives, April 26, 1977

1 WHEREAS, The Secretary of Public Welfare has stated that he  
2 will close the mental health unit at Embreeville State Hospital;  
3 and

4 WHEREAS, A gap in the delivery of services to the mentally  
5 ill in Chester County will be created; and

6 WHEREAS, The secretary's decision ignores the provisions of  
7 the county mental health plan; and

8 WHEREAS, The secretary has not provided the community with  
9 any documentation of cost savings as a result of the move; and

10 WHEREAS, The secretary's action is opposed by patients at  
11 Embreeville as well as their parents, staff, community social  
12 service agencies and community leaders; and

13 WHEREAS, The decision was made without the input and prior  
14 consultation of the trustees of Embreeville; and

15 WHEREAS, The decision could lead to the "dumping" of mentally  
16 ill patients into decrepit nursing homes and unsafe boarding  
17 homes; and

1       WHEREAS, The community mental health system is unprepared to  
2       accept the additional workload associated with the Embreeville  
3       closing; therefore be it

4       RESOLVED, That the Speaker of the House of Representatives  
5       assign the standing committee on Health and Welfare the  
6       responsibility to investigate the closing of the mental health  
7       unit at Embreeville State Hospital; and be it further

8       RESOLVED, That the committee meet with the Secretary of  
9       Public Welfare and with the patients, parents, staff and  
10      community leaders in and around the hospital to determine the  
11      facts about the closing; and be it further

12      RESOLVED, That the committee meet and reports its findings  
13      and recommendations within six months; and be it further

14      RESOLVED, That the committee may hold other hearings, take  
15      testimony, and make its investigations at such places as it  
16      deems necessary; and be it further

17      RESOLVED, That within 30 calendar days after the committee  
18      has made its report, the chairman of the committee shall cause a  
19      record of all expenses incurred by the committee, or the members  
20      thereof, which are payable at Commonwealth expense, to be filed  
21      with the Speaker of the House and the Speaker shall cause the  
22      same to be entered in the journal thereof. No expenses incurred  
23      by the committee or any member thereof shall be reimbursable by  
24      the Chief Clerk unless such expense shall first have been  
25      included as an expense item in the record heretofore required;  
26      and be it further

27      RESOLVED, That the committee report its findings and proposed  
28      legislation, if such be necessary, to the General Assembly as  
29      soon as possible.