
THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF PENNSYLVANIA

HOUSE RESOLUTION

No. 238 Session of
1995

INTRODUCED BY DeLUCA, MARKOSEK, GIGLIOTTI, STISH, LEDERER,
WALKO, JAROLIN, ROONEY, PETTIT, PESCI, DALEY, KAISER,
L. I. COHEN, SURRA, CURRY, COLAIZZO, OLASZ, ROEBUCK,
LEVANSKY, KIRKLAND, ROBERTS, BOSCOLA, STEELMAN,
E. Z. TAYLOR, ITKIN, SHANER, YOUNGBLOOD, MERRY, THOMAS AND
HALUSKA, OCTOBER 24, 1995

REFERRED TO COMMITTEE ON INTERGOVERNMENTAL AFFAIRS,
OCTOBER 24, 1995

A CONCURRENT RESOLUTION

1 Memorializing Congress to enact legislation to further protect
2 the eligibility of senior citizens in public and assisted
3 housing.

4 WHEREAS, Section 622 of the Housing and Community Development
5 Act of 1992 (Public Law 102-550, 106 Stat. 3813) amended section
6 7 of the United States Housing Act of 1937 (50 Stat. 2, 42
7 U.S.C. 1437e) to create a new program, the Designated Housing
8 Program, providing public housing agencies with the option,
9 subject to certain requirements, to designate public housing
10 projects or portions of public housing projects and other types
11 of housing for occupancy solely by elderly families, disabled
12 families or elderly and disabled families; and

13 WHEREAS, The Designated Housing Program was devised to solve
14 problems arising when elderly families and nonelderly disabled
15 families lived jointly in public or assisted housing and when
16 differences in age, physical or functional disabilities and

1 family sizes and the resultant different support services and
2 dwelling unit sizes needed by the two groups taxed the limited
3 resources of public housing agencies to resolve them; and

4 WHEREAS, Some public and assisted housing occupied
5 predominantly by elderly or elderly and disabled families also
6 houses nonelderly disabled families at up to 10% and sometimes
7 more than 10% of public housing agency's housing capacity; and

8 WHEREAS, Section 7 of the United States Housing Act of 1937
9 continues to permit public housing agencies to allocate a
10 portion of the units for habitation by nonelderly disabled
11 families, thereby subverting the intent of section 622 of the
12 Housing and Community Development Act of 1992 to enhance the
13 safety and quality of life among elderly residents; and

14 WHEREAS, The mechanisms by which existing units could be
15 reverted to solely elderly and frail elderly occupancy are
16 voluntary and rely on attrition; and

17 WHEREAS, Current nonelderly occupants are often young and
18 healthy despite disabilities and can be expected to live for
19 many more years; and

20 WHEREAS, The elderly and frail elderly residents of public
21 and assisted housing have been acted against by nonelderly
22 disabled residents or their guests to the detriment of the peace
23 of mind and physical safety of the elderly and frail elderly
24 residents; and

25 WHEREAS, Homogeneity of age among fellow residents is an
26 important determining factor in predicting housing satisfaction
27 among elderly and frail elderly residents of public and assisted
28 housing; and

29 WHEREAS, The safety and peace of mind of elderly and frail
30 elderly residents should not be held hostage to satisfy the

1 housing needs of a diverse and less homogeneous group of
2 citizens, disabled families; and

3 WHEREAS, This legislation will have little or no impact on
4 providing housing for disabled, handicapped or displaced
5 families; therefore be it

6 RESOLVED (the Senate concurring), That the General Assembly
7 memorialize Congress to enact legislation requiring all public
8 housing agencies to designate their properties either for the
9 elderly and frail elderly or for the disabled, exclusively,
10 without relying on attrition or on reservation of a percentage
11 of units occupied by the nonelderly as of October 28, 1992, for
12 continued occupation by the nonelderly; and directing the
13 Secretary of Housing and Urban Development to promulgate
14 regulations to accomplish such designations and the resultant
15 relocations without reference to rates of occupancy by the
16 nonelderly as of October 28, 1992, or to attrition and to
17 relocate those displaced; and be it further

18 RESOLVED, That copies of this resolution be transmitted to
19 the presiding officers of each house of Congress and to each
20 member of Congress from Pennsylvania.