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THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF PENNSYLVANIA

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HOUSE RESOLUTION

No. 96

Session of  
1997

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INTRODUCED BY ROBERTS, DALEY, COY, PETRARCA, DALLY AND  
TANGRETTI, APRIL 2, 1997

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REFERRED TO COMMITTEE ON RULES, APRIL 2, 1997

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A RESOLUTION

1 Opposing the imposition of charges for Pennsylvania State Police  
2 services on municipalities with populations in excess of  
3 9,000 persons.

4 WHEREAS, The Governor in his proposed budget for 1997-1998  
5 proposes to charge municipalities in excess of 9,000 population  
6 and without a local police force for Pennsylvania State Police  
7 services; and

8 WHEREAS, Pennsylvania State Police services of varying kind  
9 and intensity such as traffic control, criminal investigation  
10 and undercover investigation are provided to all municipalities  
11 within this Commonwealth regardless of size or presence of a  
12 local police force; and

13 WHEREAS, The Pennsylvania State Police do not enforce in any  
14 municipality local ordinances as would a local police force; and

15 WHEREAS, There is no State law mandating that local  
16 municipalities provide for police services; and

17 WHEREAS, Certain high-crime areas within municipalities  
18 having local police forces may consume more Pennsylvania State

1 Police resources than low-crime areas without local police  
2 forces; and

3 WHEREAS, The Governor's proposal to charge only some  
4 municipalities for Pennsylvania State Police services is  
5 discriminatory and unconstitutional and will place an onerous  
6 burden of additional property taxation on homeowners and  
7 businesses in those municipalities; therefore be it

8 RESOLVED, That the House of Representatives oppose this  
9 proposal by the Governor and urge him to propose a strictly  
10 voluntary program of technical assistance and financial  
11 incentives to encourage municipalities without local police  
12 forces to form their own forces or enter into regional  
13 arrangements for police services and for such program to provide  
14 resources significantly beyond those currently available; and be  
15 it further

16 RESOLVED, That the House of Representatives oppose  
17 legislation that would mandate the provision of local police  
18 services by municipalities as an unfunded mandate because such  
19 legislation would intrude into the local domain of citizens and  
20 their local elected officials.