

THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF PENNSYLVANIA

SENATE RESOLUTION

No. 241 Session of
1998

INTRODUCED BY KASUNIC, MELLOW, HELFRICK, O'PAKE, MUSTO, BELAN,
BELL, COSTA, STAPLETON, KITCHEN, AFFLERBACH, WENGER AND
TARTAGLIONE, OCTOBER 6, 1998

REFERRED TO EDUCATION, OCTOBER 6, 1998

A CONCURRENT RESOLUTION

1 Establishing a select committee of the General Assembly to
2 investigate the issue of violence in elementary and secondary
3 schools in the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania.

4 WHEREAS, The General Assembly finds that there have been
5 several very serious instances of violence committed in schools
6 throughout our nation and this Commonwealth resulting in the
7 death and serious injury of elementary and secondary students;
8 and

9 WHEREAS, There have been a number of recent reports in our
10 Commonwealth detailing violent incidents resulting in the injury
11 of students, faculty and staff, some of which have involved
12 dangerous weapons brought onto school property or into school-
13 sponsored functions; and

14 WHEREAS, These violent incidents have occurred in rural,
15 suburban and urban school settings; and

16 WHEREAS, It is of great concern to the citizens of this
17 Commonwealth that a safe atmosphere be provided to all students
18 to facilitate their education and instruction; therefore be it

1 RESOLVED (the House of Representatives concurring), That a
2 select committee be established to investigate and study the
3 causes and incidents of school violence and programs which have
4 been implemented in Pennsylvania and elsewhere to address and
5 alleviate the causes and incidents of school violence; and be it
6 further

7 RESOLVED, That this select committee formulate
8 recommendations to the General Assembly which could be
9 implemented for the purposes of decreasing the causes and
10 incidents of school violence in all areas throughout this
11 Commonwealth; and be it further

12 RESOLVED, That the committee consist of the following
13 members:

14 (1) One member appointed by the Majority Leader of the
15 Senate.

16 (2) One member appointed by the Minority Leader of the
17 Senate.

18 (3) One member appointed by the Majority Leader of the
19 House of Representatives.

20 (4) One member appointed by the Minority Leader of the
21 House of Representatives.

22 (5) One representative of the Pennsylvania State
23 Education Association appointed by the Governor.

24 (6) One representative of the Pennsylvania School Boards
25 Association appointed by the Governor.

26 (7) The Secretary of Education or his designee.

27 (8) The Commissioner of the Pennsylvania State Police or
28 his designee.

29 (9) The Attorney General or his designee.

30 (10) One member appointed by the Governor who is a

1 representative of an organization recognized for its
2 involvement in firearm safety education.

3 (11) One member appointed by the Governor who is a
4 mental health professional;

5 and be it further

6 RESOLVED, That the committee elect a chair from its
7 membership; and be it further

8 RESOLVED, That the committee may hold hearings, take
9 testimony and make its investigation at such places as it deems
10 necessary in this Commonwealth; and be it further

11 RESOLVED, That each member of the committee have the power to
12 administer oaths and affirmations to witnesses appearing before
13 the committee; and be it further

14 RESOLVED, That the committee be given the authority to issue
15 subpoenas and subpoenas duces tecum to insure the appearance of
16 witnesses and the production of documents for examination by the
17 committee; and be it further

18 RESOLVED, That the committee make a report of its findings
19 and recommendations by November 30, 1998; and be it further

20 RESOLVED, That the members of the committee serve without
21 compensation but be reimbursed for all necessary and actual
22 expenses incurred in the performance of their duties; and be it
23 further

24 RESOLVED, That the actual expenses incurred by the committee
25 be equally divided between the Senate and the House of
26 Representatives.