

THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF PENNSYLVANIA

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# HOUSE RESOLUTION

No. 366 Session of  
2001

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INTRODUCED BY CORNELL, S. H. SMITH, VANCE AND E. Z. TAYLOR,  
NOVEMBER 20, 2001

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REFERRED TO COMMITTEE ON RULES, NOVEMBER 20, 2001

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A CONCURRENT RESOLUTION

1 Directing the boards of directors of the regional biotechnology  
2 research centers to make their top priority the creation and  
3 enhancement of research and development of commercially  
4 useful products or intellectual property to mitigate  
5 biological agents or toxins.

6 WHEREAS, Additional steps must be taken to better prepare  
7 Pennsylvania and the United States to respond to potential  
8 bioterrorism attacks; and

9 WHEREAS, The threat of a biological attack, while still  
10 remote, is increasing for a variety of reasons; and

11 WHEREAS, Coordination of bioterrorism research and response  
12 must be improved; and

13 WHEREAS, Pennsylvania companies are national leaders in the  
14 development of new vaccines and treatments; and

15 WHEREAS, The General Assembly has established a funding  
16 formula for regional biotechnology research centers under the  
17 act of June 26, 2001 (P.L.755, No.77), known as the Tobacco  
18 Settlement Act; and

19 WHEREAS, Regional biotechnology research centers are in a

1 unique position to attract venture capital for the development  
2 of high-quality and commercially useful products or intellectual  
3 property to combat bioterrorism; and

4 WHEREAS, The board of directors of each regional  
5 biotechnology research center is to establish research  
6 priorities and be evaluated annually by the Department of Health  
7 and the Department of Community and Economic Development; and

8 WHEREAS, A top priority for biotechnology research and  
9 development is providing bioterrorism response products and  
10 procedures for citizens of this Commonwealth; therefore be it

11 RESOLVED (the Senate concurring), That the General Assembly  
12 direct the regional biotechnology research centers to make a  
13 priority the establishment of a bioterrorism research effort;  
14 and be it further

15 RESOLVED, That the centers prioritize their funding from the  
16 Commonwealth and from other sources to further this end; and be  
17 it further

18 RESOLVED, That a copy of this resolution be transmitted to  
19 the board of directors of each regional biotechnology research  
20 center operating in this Commonwealth through the provision of  
21 tobacco settlement funds.