

THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF PENNSYLVANIA

HOUSE RESOLUTION

No. 461 Session of
2002

INTRODUCED BY T. STEVENSON, CALTAGIRONE, GEIST, GEORGE, GRUCELA,
PIPPY, SCHULER, SHANER, STAIRS, STERN, THOMAS, YOUNGBLOOD AND
STEELMAN, MARCH 14, 2002

REFERRED TO COMMITTEE ON RULES, MARCH 14, 2002

A RESOLUTION

1 Directing the Joint State Government Commission to establish a
2 task force to conduct a study on the shortage of applicants
3 for administrative positions serving the Commonwealth's 501
4 school districts.

5 WHEREAS, More than 20 statistical studies conducted in the
6 United States have concluded that the effects of a principal's
7 behavior in various aspects of education make a significant
8 impact on student learning; and

9 WHEREAS, The Bureau of Labor Statistics projects that the
10 need for educational administrators will grow between 10% and
11 20% through the year 2005; and

12 WHEREAS, The average age of principals has risen from 46.8
13 years of age in 1987-1988 to 49 years of age in 2000-2001, with
14 more than 45% of principals over 50 years of age; and

15 WHEREAS, A national exploratory study conducted by the
16 Educational Research Service has concluded that there is
17 currently a shortage of candidates for principal positions in
18 urban, rural and suburban school districts at the elementary,

1 middle and high school levels; and

2 WHEREAS, Pennsylvania school districts have anecdotally
3 reported similar current shortages in administrative
4 applications; and

5 WHEREAS, On December 12, 2001, the House of Representatives
6 adopted House Resolution No. 377, which directed the Joint State
7 Government Commission to conduct a study on the shortage of
8 applicants for administrative positions serving the
9 Commonwealth's 501 school districts and to hold at least one
10 hearing to gather information from the school districts and
11 other organizations which represent administrators; and

12 WHEREAS, House Resolution No. 377 did not authorize the
13 commission to establish a task force; therefore be it

14 RESOLVED, That the Joint State Government Commission conduct
15 a study of the Commonwealth's 501 school districts to determine
16 if there is a shortage of candidates for principal and other
17 administrative positions in urban, suburban and rural districts
18 at elementary, middle and high school levels; and be it further

19 RESOLVED, That the House of Representatives direct the Joint
20 State Government Commission to establish a task force to
21 facilitate this study; and be it further

22 RESOLVED, That the task force consist of six members of the
23 House of Representatives, which shall include the chairman and
24 minority chairman of the Education Committee, two members
25 appointed by the Speaker of the House of Representatives and two
26 members to be appointed by the Minority Leader of the House of
27 Representatives; and be it further

28 RESOLVED, That the task force hold at least one hearing to
29 gather information from the school districts and other
30 organizations which represent administrators; and be it further

1 RESOLVED, That the task force file a report with the
2 Education Committee no later than November 1, 2002, containing
3 recommended solutions to correct problems, if any exist.