

THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF PENNSYLVANIA

HOUSE RESOLUTION

No. 194 Session of
2003

INTRODUCED BY GEORGE, BEBKO-JONES, CAWLEY, COY, DALEY, DeLUCA,
FABRIZIO, FREEMAN, GOODMAN, GRUCELA, GRUITZA, HARHAI, JAMES,
JOSEPHS, LEACH, MANDERINO, MELIO, MUNDY, PETRARCA, PISTELLA,
ROEBUCK, STABACK, THOMAS, TIGUE AND YOUNGBLOOD,
APRIL 14, 2003

REFERRED TO COMMITTEE ON INTERGOVERNMENTAL AFFAIRS,
APRIL 14, 2003

A RESOLUTION

1 Memorializing the Congress of the United States to refuse to
2 reorganize the Head Start program.

3 WHEREAS, Head Start provides a comprehensive program,
4 including activities to promote social, emotional, cognitive and
5 physical development as well as health services, for children in
6 poverty; and

7 WHEREAS, Head Start in Pennsylvania also provides case
8 management services as well as general educational development,
9 job training, job placement and parenting classes for families
10 that live well below the Federal poverty level; and

11 WHEREAS, Head Start has provided necessary services to more
12 than 20 million children and families since its creation in
13 1965; and

14 WHEREAS, Pennsylvania had more than 30,940 children
15 participating in various Head Start activities in 2002, with an
16 estimated Federal appropriation of \$220 million; and

1 WHEREAS, The underlying law for Head Start needs to be
2 reauthorized before October 1, 2003; and

3 WHEREAS, It has been proposed in Washington, D.C., that as a
4 part of this reauthorization, Head Start should be relocated
5 from its current agency to the Department of Education; and

6 WHEREAS, It has been proposed that Head Start would change
7 from a program which supplies Federal grants directly to
8 community organizations to a state-controlled program; and

9 WHEREAS, It has been proposed to eliminate the performance
10 standards that are a fundamental part of the Head Start's
11 success; and

12 WHEREAS, All of these proposed changes would drastically
13 alter and threaten the success of Head Start in Pennsylvania;
14 therefore be it

15 RESOLVED, That the House of Representatives of the
16 Commonwealth of Pennsylvania memorialize the Congress of the
17 United States to oppose efforts to relocate Head Start to the
18 Department of Education, to oppose efforts to convert Head Start
19 into a block grant program without performance standards and to
20 reject efforts to minimize Federal responsibility and
21 accountability and efforts to permit future budget cuts in Head
22 Start; and be it further

23 RESOLVED, That the Clerk of the House of Representatives send
24 a copy of this resolution to the Pennsylvania Congressional
25 delegation and the President of the United States.