## THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF PENNSYLVANIA

## SENATE RESOLUTION

No. 255

Session of 2004

INTRODUCED BY ORIE, STOUT, SCHWARTZ, TOMLINSON, KITCHEN, LOGAN, RAFFERTY, FERLO, COSTA, LEMMOND, BOSCOLA, RHOADES, STACK, PIPPY AND MOWERY, MAY 4, 2004

REFERRED TO EDUCATION, MAY 4, 2004

## A RESOLUTION

- 1 Urging the Department of Education and the Department of Health
- 2 to establish a coordinated school health program in
- 3 Pennsylvania.
- 4 WHEREAS, For students to become lifelong productive and
- 5 responsible citizens, schools must help them to develop health-
- 6 promoting skills and behaviors and help them to attend to the
- 7 physical, mental and social health components of their lives;
- 8 and
- 9 WHEREAS, Schools must focus more attention on behaviors and
- 10 lifestyles which act as roadblocks to learning; and
- 11 WHEREAS, Schools can serve as a catalyst for agencies and
- 12 groups to work together to maintain the well-being of young
- 13 people and promote healthy lifestyles for the future; and
- 14 WHEREAS, For the past decade, education and health experts
- 15 have suggested that a coordinated school health program which
- 16 goes beyond classroom instruction is the most efficient way for
- 17 schools to ensure the health of their students and prepare them
- 18 for productive citizenship; and

- 1 WHEREAS, A coordinated school health program consists of
- 2 eight interactive components, including health education,
- 3 physical education, health services, nutrition services,
- 4 counseling, psychological and social services, healthy school
- 5 environment and health promotion for staff, family and the
- 6 community; and
- 7 WHEREAS, Coordinated school health programs encourage healthy
- 8 lifestyles, provide needed supports to at-risk students and
- 9 reduce the prevalence of health problems which impair academic
- 10 success; and
- 11 WHEREAS, Coordinated school health programs can change
- 12 students' health behaviors and attitudes; and
- 13 WHEREAS, Coordinated school health programs are cost-
- 14 effective ways to promote health and prevent disease; and
- 15 WHEREAS, Schools cannot develop a coordinated school health
- 16 program without the cooperation of families, the health
- 17 community and the community at large; therefore be it
- 18 RESOLVED, That the Senate urge the Department of Education
- 19 and the Department of Health to work together and in cooperation
- 20 with family members and representatives of the health community
- 21 and the community at large to establish a coordinated school
- 22 health program in Pennsylvania.