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THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF PENNSYLVANIA

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# HOUSE RESOLUTION

No. 241      Session of  
2007

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INTRODUCED BY CASORIO, SURRA, BELFANTI, BROOKS, CALTAGIRONE,  
CAPPELLI, CAUSER, FABRIZIO, FAIRCHILD, FLECK, GEIST, GEORGE,  
GINGRICH, GRUCELA, HARHAI, HARKINS, HENNESSEY, HESS,  
HUTCHINSON, JAMES, KORTZ, MAHONEY, McILHATTAN, PETRONE,  
PICKETT, READSHAW, SCAVELLO, WALKO AND WOJNAROSKI,  
APRIL 23, 2007

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REFERRED TO COMMITTEE ON AGING AND OLDER ADULT SERVICES,  
APRIL 23, 2007

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## A RESOLUTION

1 Urging the Secretary of Aging to cease and desist from any  
2 action transferring long-term care assessments from the  
3 Commonwealth's area agencies on aging to a private  
4 contractor.

5 WHEREAS, The Commonwealth's area agencies on aging were  
6 created under Act 1978-70 so that all funding for older  
7 Pennsylvanians could be channeled into regional agencies,  
8 providing for a coordinated continuum of home-based and  
9 community-based services; and

10 WHEREAS, The Commonwealth's area agencies on aging continue  
11 to carry out their mission through a variety of services,  
12 including transportation, meals on wheels, adult day care and  
13 personal care; and

14 WHEREAS, Area agencies on aging have evolved into a "one-  
15 stop" shop for older Pennsylvanians, thereby minimizing their  
16 exposure to bureaucratic obstacles in their efforts to access

1 programs and services; and

2 WHEREAS, More than 20 years ago, area agencies on aging and  
3 the Department of Aging collaborated on the development and  
4 implementation of a Statewide, standardized assessment process  
5 in order to best determine the long-term needs of older  
6 Pennsylvanians; and

7 WHEREAS, The Department of Aging has proposed transferring  
8 that assessment function from the area agencies on aging to a  
9 private contractor without consulting that network or holding  
10 public hearings; and

11 WHEREAS, Where assessments can now be completed in a period  
12 of one to two days, a centralized assessment conducted by a  
13 private contractor could take considerably longer, thereby  
14 delaying services to needy older citizens and possibly  
15 jeopardizing their care; and

16 WHEREAS, It has not been demonstrated that a private  
17 contractor would provide improved assessment services or reduce  
18 costs; therefore be it

19 RESOLVED, That the House of Representatives strongly urge the  
20 Secretary of Aging to cease and desist any action transferring  
21 long-term care assessments from the Commonwealth's area agencies  
22 on aging to a private contractor; and be it further

23 RESOLVED, That the House of Representatives strongly urge the  
24 Secretary of Aging to meet representatives of every area agency  
25 on aging and with the Pennsylvania Association of Area Agencies  
26 on Aging to discuss the proposed transfer, sharing with them any  
27 pertinent data; and be it further

28 RESOLVED, That copies of this resolution be transmitted to  
29 the Governor and to the Secretary of Aging.