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THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF PENNSYLVANIA

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HOUSE RESOLUTION

No. 724 Session of  
2008

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INTRODUCED BY DENLINGER, ARGALL, BEAR, BENNINGHOFF, BEYER, BOYD, CAPPELLI, EVERETT, FAIRCHILD, FLECK, GEIST, GINGRICH, GOODMAN, HARHART, HARRIS, HENNESSEY, HICKERNELL, HORNAMAN, HUTCHINSON, KAUFFMAN, KORTZ, LENTZ, MAJOR, MARSICO, MILLARD, R. MILLER, MILNE, MOUL, MURT, MUSTIO, PAYNE, PETRARCA, PHILLIPS, RAPP, REICHLEY, RUBLEY, SONNEY, STERN, R. STEVENSON, SWANGER, TRUE, TURZAI, VULAKOVICH AND WATSON, MAY 2, 2008

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REFERRED TO COMMITTEE ON APPROPRIATIONS, MAY 2, 2008

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A CONCURRENT RESOLUTION

1 Creating a commission composed of public and private cost-minded  
2 leaders of this Commonwealth to study the management of  
3 current government operations and make recommendations  
4 regarding the merger and consolidation of certain government  
5 operations.

6 WHEREAS, The economic health of this Commonwealth is a top  
7 priority; and

8 WHEREAS, The tax burden on this Commonwealth's citizens and  
9 businesses resulting from the cost of government operations and  
10 administration can have a significant impact on the economic  
11 health of this Commonwealth; and

12 WHEREAS, State government has an obligation to be fiscally  
13 responsible and to limit the tax burden it imposes; and

14 WHEREAS, Ten cents of every public dollar spent is committed  
15 to general government operations; and

16 WHEREAS, An organized bipartisan effort is necessary to

1 determine ways in which State government can be made more  
2 effective and more efficient; therefore be it

3 RESOLVED (the Senate concurring), That the General Assembly  
4 create a government management and cost study commission  
5 composed of leaders from the public and private sectors to study  
6 Commonwealth government operations and the experience of other  
7 states in an effort to propose changes that will reduce costs,  
8 increase accountability and improve service; and be it further

9 RESOLVED, That the commission make recommendations regarding  
10 the merger and consolidation of operations in executive agencies  
11 and legislative agencies; and be it further

12 RESOLVED, That the commission be comprised of ten members as  
13 follows:

14 (1) Two members to be appointed by the Governor, with  
15 one of the appointments being a member of the general public.

16 (2) Two members to be appointed by the Majority Leader  
17 of the Senate and two members to be appointed by the Minority  
18 Leader of the Senate, with no more than one appointment from  
19 each authority being a government official or employee.

20 (3) Two members to be appointed by the Majority Leader  
21 of the House of Representatives and two members to be  
22 appointed by the Minority Leader of the House of  
23 Representatives, with no more than one appointment from each  
24 authority being a government official or employee;

25 and be it further

26 RESOLVED, That these appointments be made within 30 days of  
27 the adoption of this resolution; and be it further

28 RESOLVED, That the commission make a report of its findings  
29 and recommendations to the Governor and the General Assembly no  
30 later than November 30, 2008, at which time the commission shall

1   cease to exist; and be it further

2       RESOLVED, That the chairman rely on the existing staff of the  
3   appointing authorities and the Appropriations Committee of the  
4   Senate and the Appropriations Committee of the House of  
5   Representatives to the greatest extent possible; and be it  
6   further

7       RESOLVED, That necessary and reasonable costs and  
8   expenditures of the commission be authorized to be paid from  
9   funds already appropriated by the General Assembly to the Office  
10   of the Budget and the Office of Administration; and be it  
11   further

12       RESOLVED, That the commission comply with all the duties and  
13   responsibilities of an agency under 65 Pa.C.S. Ch. 7 (relating  
14   to open meetings).